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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

DPL lawsuit over leaseback agreement settled for $1M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. and Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC have settled for $1 million Department of Public Lands Secretary Marianne C. Teregeyo's $10.5-million counterclaims and cross claims against the two companies.

» Kan Pacific, Imperial Pacific agree to each pay DPL $500K

Attorney General Edward Manibusan announced yesterday that in dismissing all claims brought in Teregeyo's lawsuit, Kan Pacific and Imperial Pacific agreed to each pay $500,000 to DPL to resolve the claims.

"The Office of the Attorney General takes anti-competitive agreements seriously and will pursue these claims in the public interest whenever they arise," Manibusan said.

DPL Secretary Teregeyo, through OAG, filed the antitrust against Kan Pacific and Imperial Pacific, which is the parent company of Saipan casino licensee Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

See DPL on Page 4

FUTURE TEACHERS
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Students who are part of Northern Marianas College's School of Education pose for their class photo. They are working toward their Bachelor of Science in Education degree in various concentrations including early childhood education, elementary education, rehabilitation and human services, and special education. NMC's graduation will be held on May 21, 2016.

OVER RELEASE OF $400K FOR PAYMENT FOR M/V *LUTA*

Taxpayer's lawsuit filed vs Hocog, Larson

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former Department of Public Lands secretary John DelRosario filed yesterday a taxpayer's lawsuit against Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog and Department of Finance Secretary Larissa C. Larson over the alleged adoption of a Rota Legislative Delegation resolution without public notice that purportedly authorized payment of $400,000 to a private company owned by relatives of Hocog.

Hocog

Larson

DelRosario, through counsel Jen-

See TAXPAYER on Page 4

ACG to discuss QC application with CDA, Torres

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The Alter City Group said it will still have to discuss its qualifying certificate agreement with the Commonwealth Development Authority after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed a resolution and approved having ACG under the program.

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The 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden kicked off last Saturday night.
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NATION
Anxiety over Donald Trump spread among congressional Republicans Monday.
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ASIA
Rodrigo Duterte, the bombastic mayor of a major southern Philippine city, was poised Tuesday to become the nation's president-elect.
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Local

Torres reiterates concerns with marine monument

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said yesterday that his May 3, 2016, letter to President Barack Obama on the proposed expansion of the marine conservation areas in Hawaii was to "share our story" with the CNMI's own lagging marine monument.

Torres said he had talked with "some folks" in Hawaii who claimed the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument was being expanded for reasons "they don't know why," and that there was "no additional assistance or rationale for expanding it."

Torres noted that during the creation of Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, "hundreds of millions of dollars, jobs, centers" were advertised to the CNMI.

"None of that has occurred. It is going on eight years," Torres told reporters yesterday. The MTMNT was created in 2008.

"For me," Torres added, "we are sharing our story here on I how felt how the monument was done. So my concern is, we have the Marianas Trench Monument that was done by president Bush [with] almost ten years now with almost nothing to show for. That's my concern."

Torres' earlier letter asks Obama to also focus monuments in existence in order to fulfill the existing mandates of the Marianas monument, while the President considers the merits of expanding the monument in Hawaii.

"Protecting ocean resources is a necessary consideration, but so too is the follow through to complete what has already been started," Torres said in the letter. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Torres reviewing bill to restructure management of federal grants

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is hearing concerns from agencies on the bill to restructure how grants are managed among agencies and departments.

Torres yesterday was asked for the status of House Bill 19-90, which is on his desk for action and creates a "state clearinghouse" for grants within the administration.

Torres told reporters that he is waiting for the Office of Attorney General for its recommendation on the bill.

He added that agencies have "quite a few concerns" with the bill and have brought up issues they have heard from federal grantors with the bill.

"The ultimate goal of our grants office is to assist to all the agencies and departments to not just follow the grants itself but to also to make sure we don't fall back. That's the goal.

"I want to make sure that… grants are not hampered or jeopardized. That's the biggest" concern, Torres said.

The bill aims to provide an oversight agency to ensure the financial and performance requirements of grants are met, and cites previous findings on the "unacceptable number" of federal grant "non-compliances" in recent years.

The bill tallied an average of 34 such findings a year and as of 2014, a cumulative questioned costs amounting to $45 million.

For one, the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture lost for the second time recently its grants from National Endowment for the Arts or NEA, which CCAC solely depends on to provide most of the programs and services to local artists. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Anti-animal cruelty bill makes it out of House

The House of Representatives passed a bill to prevent cruelty and theft of animals and provide penalties for such actions during a session on Rota yesterday.

Currently, the CNMI has no existing laws protecting animals from cruelty or theft.

House Bill 19-55, authored by Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), proposed fines ranging from $250 to $1,000 for cruel mistreatment, neglect, abandonment, and torture or torment of animals.

The passage of the bill this month follows a standing committee report from the House committee on Natural Resources that recommended its passage.

In that report, the committee found that the malicious acts of violence toward animals, which had been recorded and posted on Facebook and Youtube, paints a negative outlook on the CNMI.

The committee found that as of 2007, some 1,880 cases of animal cruelty have been reported.

If enacted into law, the bill would follow the 50 other U.S. states that have implemented some form of animal cruelty laws.

If enacted, municipal mayors will be given expenditure authority of all fees and fines collected within their municipality from the bill. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph and First Lady Diann Torres join the 2016 Miss Marianas and 2016 Miss Marianas Teen contestants and their moms and guests for the first Stellar Marianas Breakfast with Moms event in honor of Mother's Day at Fiesta Resort & Spa last Saturday.

First lady hosts 'Breakfast with Moms' with Miss Marianas

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To celebrate Mother's Day, candidates for the 2016 Miss Marianas and Miss Marianas Teen pageant and their mothers joined Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and First Lady Diann Torres for the first ever "Breakfast with Moms" at the Fiesta Resort & Spa last Saturday.

Addressing the young women who will be vying for the islands' prestigious titles of Miss Marianas and Miss Marianas Teen this July, First Lady Diann said that confidence is beautiful and the fact that they are contestants already makes them winners in representing the islands to the best of their abilities.

"What I enjoyed most when I was a contestant for Miss Northern Marianas way back when," Lady Dian laughed, "was how we all came together to help each other and our community."

"This is an experience that will be with you for a long time, creating memories that you will recall with a sense of pride and accomplishment, no matter what happens," she added.

Joining the event were 2016 Miss Marianas Teen contestants Jyawnna Joyner with her grandmother Aurelia Kretzer, Nicole Q. Myers, with her mom Candace Q. Celis, and Alexandra L. Lee-Sang with her mom Wendi Herring.

Fellow contestant Palanga Tiara B. Taimanao was not able to join the breakfast with her mom Cecile as her prom was held that night on Rota.

The 2016 Miss Marianas contestants who participated are Angelyn D. Labadan with her mom Asun Demapan, Maricris R. Zapanta with her aunt Elena Quizon, Mariebell Q. Aldan with her mom Rosario, Peachy Josifynn Quitigua with her mom Roca, Joanna Marie G. Navarro with her good friend Jennifer Lopez, and Francine B. Sablan with her mom Sandra.

Dickerson & Quinn International Distributors Saipan Sales and Marketing coordinator Jaki Fujihira also hosted a game by TRESemme', the pageants' official hair product brand, called "Know Thy Mother" and it was laughter all around as the daughters, moms, and guests got to know each other better.

Winning mother-daughter duo Alexie and Wendi and friends Joanne and Jennifer happily received bags full of TRESemme' products.

Stellar Marianas, the islands' nonprofit pageant and talent group, gave moms and guests roses as a thank you on behalf of the contestants.

"We are most grateful the governor and the first lady took precious time to be with our young women and help provide them an event to inspire and motivate them in representing our islands and volunteering for our community," said Stellar Marianas community events director Myla Capilitan.

"It was also a way for us to thank our mothers, families and friends for supporting our contestants on this exciting journey and to make discoveries themselves along the way," she added, "It was our first to hold such an event and it looks like it's a keeper."

The 2016 Miss Marianas and Miss Marianas Teen Pageant is scheduled on July 16 and will be held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall.

For more information, visit Stellar Marianas on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stellarmarianas.

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ON NET METERING PROGRAM PROTOCOLS:

'No response from CUC on 2015 CPUC request'

No filings have been made by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. regarding the recommendations made by the consultants of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission on the corporation's net metering program protocols.

In a report before the CPUC and CUC hearing held last week, CPUC consultant Georgetown Consulting Group, Inc. said that nothing has been filed so far on the recommendations made in 2015.

"We determined that billing protocols contained in [4 CMC] §8536 and §8537 were being correctly applied with respect to net metering, however, we determined that the process by which that is being done has not been memorialized by CUC. It was being done in an ad-hoc basis," Georgetown's Larry Gawlik said.

Georgetown recommended that CUC memorialize and provide to the commission descriptions of the CUC net-metering billing and annual reconciliation methodologies employed per sections 8537 and 8539(e); certification that it has adopted and fully implemented the net-metering billing and reconciliation methodology; provide the commission with the date it completed the first annual reconciliation cycle and that it should be satisfactory to the commission; certification that it will conduct "annual" reconciliations thereafter as required by sections 8537 and 8539(e); and that a process has been initiated for providing consumption and production information per section 8540.

Georgetown also recommended that CUC should update the commission on the conclusions from the review that the corporation has indicated it is doing on the need for regulations per §4(a) of P.L. 18-75, which prioritizes net metering interconnection for health and education renewable energy capacity.

"This information was provided to the commission in 2015. The commission has requested that CUC provide its response. At this point in time, to my knowledge, there has been nothing filed with the Commission on those particular requests," Gawlik said.

CUC currently has 100 net meter customers for commercial and residential and has 35 pending applications.

CUC said that contributions made by net metering customers vary but it has a total demand of 2.3 megawatts approximately.

CUC did not make any comments on the report presented by Georgetown.

"For the record, CUC was given a May 2nd deadline to respond to Georgetown's recommendations if it had any concerns and I assume that, since there was no filing, CUC is comfortable with the recommendations Georgetown has made," hearing officer Harry Boertzel said. ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

DPL

From Page 1

In that suit, Teregeyo alleged that an attempted assignment and leaseback agreement executed by Kan Pacific and Imperial Pacific was an attempt by Imperial Pacific to eliminate competition in connection with DPL's request for proposal to lease public lands where the Marianas Resort and Spa is located.

Manibusan said Commonwealth and federal laws prohibit collusion in connection with bids for public contracts.

In the lawsuit, Teregeyo alleged that the agreement between Imperial Pacific and Kan Pacific violated those laws.

Manibusan said the parties mediated their disputes and resolved all claims.

Teregeyo recently filed the counterclaims and cross claims against Kan Pacific, Imperial Pacific, and Saipan Entertainment LLC.

Saipan Entertainment owns the e-gaming facility Club 88 Mariana located at Mariana Resort & Spa in Marpi. Kan Pacific owns Mariana Resort & Spa. Imperial Pacific is doing business as Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

Saipan Entertainment sued Kan Pacific and Imperial Pacific for allegedly not informing the company of Best Sunshine's negotiation to purchase the Mariana Resort. Teregeyo was also named as co-defendant.

Last March, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio dismissed Saipan Entertainment's breach of contract claim against Kan Pacific.

Teregeyo filed the counterclaims and cross claims against Kan Pacific, Imperial Pacific, and Saipan Entertainment for declaratory judgment; and malicious prosecution against Saipan Entertainment.

Teregeyo has filed counterclaims for breach of contract against the three companies. She also filed counterclaims for anticipatory repudiation and restraint trade in violation of the Sherman Act and Clayton Act against Kan Pacific and Imperial Pacific.

The Sherman Act provides that every contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or commerce is declared illegal.

A private right of action for violation of the Sherman Act is created by the Clayton Act.

Teregeyo, through assistant attorney general Christopher M. Timmons, asked the Superior Court, among other things, to hold Kan Pacific and Imperial Pacific jointly liable to pay her/DPL $10.5 million for allegedly colluding to restrain trade in violation of Commonwealth and federal law.

TAXPAYER

From Page 1

nifer Dockter, is suing Hocog and Larson for breach of fiduciary duties, and expenditure of public funds for an improper purpose.

In addition, DelRosario is suing Hocog for violation of the Open Government Act.

The plaintiff asked the Superior Court to issue a judgment declaring Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 19-3 void ab initio (from the beginning), and all acts taken in furtherance of such resolution null and void.

DelRosario requested the court to issue an injunctive relief preventing Larson from taking any further action in furtherance of the illegal expenditure of public monies.

DelRosario asked the court to slap Hocog with civil penalties for violations of the Open Government Act. He requested the court to hold the defendants liable to pay him attorney's fees and costs.

Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 19-03 was approved "to authorize the Department of Finance to pay for fuel, lubrication, and other costs necessary for the maiden voyage of the vessel from Louisiana to its new home port in Rota, and to provide for the personnel and operational costs of the Office of the Mayor of Rota."

The vessel, M/V *Luta*, a 150-foot long 500-ton cargo ship that originally came from Louisiana, reportedly can accommodate about 20 passengers and can carry up to 28 20-foot containers. The boat arrived on Rota last March 17 after leaving Panama.

Dockter stated in DelRosario's complaint that on March 20, 2015, the Rota Legislative Delegation held its first regular session at the Rota Mayor's conference room.

Four members of the Rota Legislative Delegation were present: Rep. Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota) and Sens. Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota), Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota), and Hocog.

Dockter said Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 19-3 was voted on and adopted by then-Senate president Victor Hocog and the other three members of the Delegation.

Dockter said Hocog introduced Resolution 19-3, which was then adopted without discussion.

Dockter said Resolution 19-3 was not included on the agenda for the session on March 20, 2015.

She said no public notice was given that Resolution 19-3 would be taken up during the Rota Legislative Delegation session.

Resolution 19-3 calls for the Finance secretary to enter into an agreement with Luta Mermaid LLC for "repayment of [the $400,000] within a period of one year."

Dockter said no contracts or agreements have ever been entered into between Luta Mermaid LLC and the Finance secretary.

Dockter said Luta Mermaid LLC has not entered any contracts of any kind with any government body or agency.

She said Luta Mermaid LLC is under no legal obligation to use the public lands for any public purpose.

"The process by which Luta Mermaid, LLC was chosen to receive $400,000 of public monies is unknown: there were no public proposals requested, no period for public comment, or public hearings held regarding Luta Mermaid, LLC," the lawyer pointed out.

Dockter alleged that Luta Mermaid, LLC was not vetted for legitimacy or to ensure that it could provide the services it has been supposedly contracted to provide for the Commonwealth.

She said Luta Mermaid, LLC is a limited liability corporation whose shareholders are Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T. Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola III.

Dockter said all of Luta Mermaid LLC shareholders are relatives of Hocog.

Dockter noted that appropriations of public funds may be introduced only in the House of Representatives.

Dockter said the Government Ethics Act of 1992 provides that "A public official or public employee shall not use or attempt to use the public position to obtain private financial gain, contract, employment, license, or other personal or private advantage, direct on indirect, for the public official or public employee, [or] for a relative," she said

Dockter said Hocog influenced the decision on Resolution 19-3 and voted it, which gave $400,000 to his relatives' corporation.

The lawyer said violations of the Government Ethics Act, which resulted in $400,000 of public funds being given to the family members of Hocog, was a breach of Hocog's fiduciary duties.

Dockter disclosed that a memorandum from the Rota Delegation was sent to secretary Larson on March 25, 2015, which stated that Resolution 19-3 was adopted by the Rota Legislative Delegation on March 20, 2015.

Dockter said just two days later, Larson cause $400,000 to be transferred from the CNMI General Fund Account to Luta Mermaid LLC's bank account.

Dockter said Larson violated her fiduciary duties when she caused $400,000 to be given to a private company without any lawful or legal appropriations bill.

ACG

From Page 1

According to ACG chief executive officer Edvon Sze, they will be meeting with CDA as well as the governor to talk about the QC regarding certain conditions that they need to fulfill.

"Hopefully we can reach an agreement," Sze said, "We need to have this agreement presented to the CDA board and the whole board of directors they will vote, and then they will do the recommendation to the governor again and the governor will sign then it will become official."

"Now is time to sit down with CDA to discuss," managing director Ken Lin said.

Sze said some of the conditions in the QC are "not really favorable to us" citing as an example the condition of having locals to fill 30 percent of their employee needs.

ACG projects needing "at least 1,000 staff for phase one of the development" which would mean hiring about 300 locals on Tinian.

"I would like to point out that that is very difficult for us because the number of people living in Tinian is not that much. It will be like close to 4,000 people, and of that 4,000, how many are potential employee that we'll be able to hire?" Sze said.

"If I can't achieve that 30 percent, I cannot have the entitlement from the QC," he added.

He also cited a ratio requirement for managerial positions to be locals.

Sze said the conditions are "putting us in a difficult situation to obtain this allowance" even though their hiring preference are Tinian residents first followed by CNMI residents, residents from U.S territories in the Micronesian region, U.S. citizens, and then green card holders, before considering Commonwealth-only worker visa holders.

"We prefer to hire locals, as a matter of fact. But again, it's going to be difficult for us and we don't think we will be able to do it even though we're willing to hire locals. And if we cannot achieve it, if we cannot comply with the conditions in the QC, there is no way we can get the benefit back at the end of the year. Those kinds of things put is in a very bad situation," Sze said

Sze also mentioned the requirement of buying local products which is no problem for them, but worrisome if there are no supplies of local products available.

"We would like to see more things that makes sense and flexible and not something that will put us in a bad situation and is not achievable," Sze said.

"It defeats the purpose of allowing us to have this QC," he added.

Tax incentives

In its application last February, ACG requested to have, during their 12-year construction phase, tax abatement for the 2 percent developer's tax and 100 percent off on the business gross revenue, bar, and excise taxes. They also have asked for a rebate of the 100 percent of income taxes during construction and operational phases of its resort for a period up to 25 years.

Last April 29, Torres signed CDA's resolution and memorandum recommending the issuance of Qualifying Certificate No. QC 2016-01 to ACG "with tax benefits limited to those taxes directly related to the construction and operation of a golf and casino resort in Puntan Diablo Cove, Tinian."

The project includes the construction of 324 villas, 1,205 hotel rooms, 3,098 service apartments, a casino, two 9-hole golf courses, an 18-hole golf course, a golf club, a golf villa club house, a cultural center and 1,057 staff dormitories and community retail units as well as infrastructure developments including power plants, wastewater treatment plants, standby power generation systems, and reverse osmosis water systems.

In its resolution, CDA recommended 100 percent abatement of Excise Taxes for construction materials directly related to the approved project until completion of Phase 3 or July 2027, which ever occurs first.

The excise tax abatement shall be capped at $17.6 million.

On BGRT and Alcoholic Beverage Tax abatement, CDA recommended for Years 1 to 15 a 20-percent rebate, plus an additional 30 percent rebate on the BGRT multiplied by the ratio of total resident employees to total employees; an additional 30 percent rebate on the BGRT multiplied by the ratio of total resident managerial employees to total managerial employees; and an additional 20 percent rebate on the BGRT multiplied by the ratio of local purchases of goods and services used in the operations of the business to total purchases of the same goods and services.

The BGRT and Alcoholic Beverage Tax rebates shall be capped at $496 million.

More jobs offered at next BSI job fair

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC, doing business as Best Sunshine International, Ltd. says it will continue its ongoing efforts and do what it can to encourage the continuous hiring of local workers.

Demonstrating the company's increasing recognized commitment to the CNMI, Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown said, "It is our continuing goal to attract more locals to join us. Evidently, since we've opened, income earned by local Best Sunshine employees continue to grow and have become more significant and have provided an important boost to the community with tax dollars invested back into the local economy. Best Sunshine fosters active community involvement and instills a sense of pride by providing locals with gainful employment and equipping them with valuable skills and qualifications that they can pick up from training by industry experts offered by Best Sunshine."

Brown added, "The conclusion is perceptible that local employment goals have been a win-win situation. Currently, we will increase the number of our local employees. In eager anticipation of the opening of the Grand Mariana, we want to continue our development plan by further building up our local workforce and inviting residents to apply at our next job fair especially for non-gaming job openings at various departments such as hotel operations, food and beverage, hospitality, and purchasing. We hope to hire at least 300 more locals at this job fair."

Best Sunshine is wholly committed to providing local employment opportunities as evident by its continuing efforts to recruit and offer training to local workers who can begin an exciting career at the Grand Mariana Hotel Resort, its first of many landmark projects in Saipan. The company plans to continue expanding this opportunity especially to those looking for fresh promising opportunities in the CNMI and is committed to offering a variety of jobs for local residents by offering competitive rates and benefits.

Best Sunshine's next job fair is scheduled at 9am to 5pm this Friday, May 13, at the Azucena banquet hall of Fiesta Resort and Spa. To schedule a priority interview, applicants are advised to pre-register and call 233-9188 before May 12. Best Sunshine's Talent Acquisition team will also be calling applicants who were initially interviewed in past job fairs.

The objective is to provide locals with career counselling and long-term employment opportunities for those capable and interested in career advancement within the progressively growing corporation. **(*PR*)**

SWEET MOMENT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Best Sunshine International, Ltd. Corporate Social Responsibility director and 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer chair Geri Dela Cruz, Laurie Ogomuro, Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, cancer survivor AngelRay Guerrero, along with the 2016 MMAC committee enjoy a light moment following the proclamation signing declaring the Marianas March Against Cancer Week last Thursday.

IMPERIAL PACIFIC
博華太平洋

Imperial Pacific is committed to building a world class integrated resort in Saipan. We are a group of unique and talented individuals focusing on developing and operating premium, integrated entertainment facilities and holiday resorts in globally recognized tourism destinations.

We are looking for intelligent and talented people to join our growing team of professionals.

Imperial Pacific offers exciting career opportunities as well as first-rate compensation and benefit packages.

Date: Friday, 13 May 2016 **RECRUITMENT DAY** **Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

Venue: Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Banquet Hall - Azucena

Hotel Operations	
Manager - Laundry	2
Laundry Attendant	65
Housekeeping Attendant	90
Public Area Cleaner	60
Wardrobe Attendant	20
Seamstress	5
Front Office Agent	25
Valet Attendant	10
Bellperson	20
Steward - Kitchen	2

Hotel Operations	
Gardener	10
Floral Processor	3
Pool Attendant	20
Health Club Attendant	15

Hospitality	
Administrative Assistant	1
VIP Driver	20
Tour Operator	5

Food & Beverage	
Server	40
Runner	32
Bartender	43
Bar Back	31
Demi Chef - Western/ Chinese Cuisines	28
Commis Chef - Western/ Chinese Cuisines	54

Purchasing	
Manager - Purchasing	1

To apply, please visit imperialpaccareer.com
For schedule your priority interview, please contact us at (670) 233-9188 during office hours from Monday to Friday between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm or by email: careers@bestsunshine.com before 12 May.

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Man pleads guilty to sexual abuse of minor girl

A 42-year-old man accused of sexually abusing a minor girl in 2013 and 2014 entered a guilty yesterday before Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Jose Mendiola Cepeda pleaded guilty to one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

Govendo accepted Cepeda's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Govendo dismissed the remaining charge of sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree upon the government's recommendation as part of the plea deal.

The judge set the sentencing for Sept. 27, 2016 at 1:30pm. He ordered the Office of Adult Probation to submit a pre-sentencing report.

Under the plea deal, Cepeda will be sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, all suspended except for an open sentence of five years to eight years, to be determined at the sentencing hearing after a pre-sentence investigation has been conducted.

The five to eight years imprisonment will be served day for day, without the possibility of parole, early release, or work release. Cepeda will be given credit for time served.

Cepeda will be placed on supervised probation for 10 years upon his release from the Department of Corrections.

The defendant was ordered to pay a $2,000 fine, $1,000 probation fee, plus court costs.

Cepeda was required to perform 200 hours of community work service and pay restitution to the victim in amount to be determined by the Office of Adult Probation for previous and any future additional medical or psychological treatment necessary as a result of his crime.

Cepeda was required to submit to examinations focusing on sex offender counseling.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, in November 2013 on Saipan, Cepeda was on a couch with the then-14-year-old girl when he pulled her panty to the side and performed oral sex on her.

Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government. Attorney Michael Dotts is counsel for Cepeda. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

TOP AG'S CUP WINNERS

The three top winners during last Friday's 32nd Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition in a group photo at the CNMI Supreme Court. From left are third placer Ann Margaret Norcio of Marianas High School, second placer Mikhail T. Alcantara of Saipan Southern High School, and champion Lance Vincent Q. Deleon Guerrero of Mount Carmel High School.

Probable cause found against man accused of sexually assaulting 2 women

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday found probable cause as to five of six charges filed against Mollik Sagar, a man accused of sexually assaulting two women who were swimming at Grotto area in Marpi.

At a preliminary hearing, Camacho found probable cause to charge the 35-year-old Sagar with sexual assault in the second degree, sexual assault in the first degree, assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

Camacho ordered Sagar to answer the charges.

The judge, however, did not find probable cause to charge the defendant with another count of assault and battery, and dismissed the charge.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub, counsel for the government, stated that assault and battery is a lesser included offense of sexual assault in the second degree.

Weintraub called to the witness stand police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan, who is the officer in charge of the case. Assistant public defender Michael Sato is counsel for Sagar.

Camacho set the arraignment for May 16 at 9am.

Pangelinan stated in her report that Rudolpho Hermosilla Jr. responded to Grotto last May 1 at 11:34am after a lifeguard called to report about a sexual assault incident.

The two Korean women, who were in a pavilion, told the officer that Sagar sexually assaulted them while they were swimming.

The women alleged that they arrived at Grotto, but they could not swim because they were not carrying lifejackets.

The women said Sagar and another Bangladeshi man approached and asked to pay them $25 each in exchange for guiding them in the swimming area.

The women agreed because they know how to swim without lifejackets. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-ITB-16-013

SALE AND REMOVAL OF SCRAP MATERIALS FROM THE WAREHOUSE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Scrap materials located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained at no charge upon registration at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and One (1) copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-ITB-16-013, CUC Sale & Removal of Scrap Materials from the Warehouse"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 26, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the scrap materials. CUC shall transfer and assign the scrap materials to the prospective bidder in an **"As is, Where is"** condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the scrap materials.

The scrap materials may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Warehouse Division at telephone no. 322-6585.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2016, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Administrative Technician for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-014

AS LITO WATER DISTRIBUTION UPGRADE AND REPLACEMENT/RELOCATION OF SERVICE LATERALS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new distribution lines, cut and cap of existing lines and tapping to existing mains. The work also includes the installation of new fire hydrants, flush hydrants, air relief valves, new water lateral connections, relocation and reconnection of existing water meters and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "*CUC-IFB-16-014, As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 9, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 23, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Family planning services part of MHCB's programs

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is reminding the public that family planning services are part of their programs like teen pregnancy prevention education. TaAnn Kabua is the MHCB administrator.

MHCB project coordinator Heather Pangelinan said they are encouraging families and even female teens who are at child-bearing age to avail of the service. She said that, although there's no available data, teen pregnancy in the CNMI is higher than the national rate.

"We offer contraceptives not only for couples but also for teen mothers so they could prevent further unwanted pregnancies. We also offer free counseling for teen mothers," said Pangelinan, after speaking in last week's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting.

The information campaign is part of the 2nd Annual CNMI Women's Health Month celebration, which began on April 27 and ends on June 3. They are currently in the Women's Health Week where they are offering free Zumba classes at the Garapan Central Park from 6:30pm to 8pm and at the same time include blood pressure check, and diabetes, cholesterol, and anemia screenings.

The MHCB, together with other partners like the nursing students of the Northern Marianas College, will also set up a Mobile Clinic on Saturday, March 14, from 8am to 12nn at the Marianas Business Plaza is Susupe.

Breast and cervical cancer screenings, diabetes and anemia screenings, family planning, pregnancy test, and domestic and sexual assault counseling are the services to be offered.

They will also hold a women's softball tournament on Sunday; a Women's Fit and Wellness Class in cooperation with Latte Built where outdoor fitness classes will be given to all women from 5:30pm to 7pm; the Walk in Our Shoes event on May 27; and Island Sportsfest and Obstacle Race on May 28.

The fit and wellness class will be given by the trainers of Latte Built, and will teach women various exercises that they can perform and learn about nutrition for a healthy living.

The Walk in Our Shoes event is a one-mile race for men that starts and ends at the Garapan Fishing Base. The first 20 men to cross the finish line, carrying a 20-lb sack of rice, will receive a prize. The race event will give men the opportunity to know the feeling of childbearing.

Stand Up Paddling, obstacle course, tug of war, coconut husking and grinding, and coconut throwing are the events to be contested in the Island Sportsfest on May 28.

They also held a health visit—blood pressure check, anemia and diabetes screenings, breast and cervical cancer screenings, family planning, and domestic abuse and sexual assault counseling—at the Nutrition and Assistance Program office in As Lito from May 2 to 5. The NMC-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service are their partners in the program.

Torres swears in DoC commissioner Cabrera

Joined by her family members and fellow department heads, Georgia Muna Cabrera was sworn in by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres as the commissioner of the Department of Corrections during a swearing in event yesterday at the Office of the Governors press conference room in Capital Hill.

With the ceremony yesterday, Cabrera finally settles into her post in an official capacity, after being nominated by Torres in early March and having her nomination scrutinized by the Senate in hearings that month.

The Senate confirmed her appointment late last month.

The Corrections captain has been with the department since 1995, working her way up through ranks. She comes after former DoC commissioner Robert Guerrero who was appointed to lead the Department of Public Safety.

Torres also yesterday swore in second-generation businessman Joe Erra Ayuyu as member of the Commonwealth Zoning Board.

"Gov. Torres and Lt. Gov. Hocog congratulate him for his successful confirmation and wish him well in this important endeavor," the Office of Governor said in a statement yesterday.

Ayuyu will serve another two-year term. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

THANK YOU TEACHERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. Corporate Social Responsibility team, led by director Rita Chong, honored the teachers of Tanapag Middle School with gift baskets as part of surprise appreciation that BSI-CSR did in honor of all classroom teachers as part of Teachers' Appreciation Week.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-009

Construction of Koblerville Elementary School Open Canopy at Stage Area

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of Koblerville Elementary School Open Canopy at Stage Area**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 27, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 13, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Project Site, located at Koblerville Elementary School, Koblerville, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 17, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-16-IFB-009**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 01, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 01, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 01, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 10, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, June 14, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on June 01, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **PETER P. CAMACHO**
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-013

Repair and Renovation of DPS Boating Safety Section Office, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair and Renovation of DPS Boating Safety Section Office, Smiling Cove, Saipan,** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **May 11, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 27, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 31, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-16-IFB-013**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 21, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 21, 2016,** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 21, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **July 01, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, July 05, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on June 21, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Taste of the Marianas kicks off

The 18thAnnual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden kicked off last Saturday night, bringing some of the best of island cuisine and entertainment to American Memorial Park.

The event is held every Saturday evening beginning at 6pm in May as part of the month-long celebration of Tourism Month in the Northern Mariana Islands.

"We're so pleased to be working again this year with HANMI and American Memorial Park to make this event possible for our visitors and residents," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "I was surprised to hear some residents were there for the first time last week. We hope everyone will make time this month to experience the Taste."

For the first time, MVA has three heats of the Hotdog Eating Competition, with Conall Hartig finishing first in the Ages 10-13 Heat, followed by Thomas Benavente in second place, and Miles Timmons rounding out the winners. In the Ages 14-17 Heat, Dylan Camacho finished first, followed by Jonathan Camacho in second. In the adult division, Simon Necesito improved on his 2015 second place finish to nab first place, while 2015 third place finisher Ray Emul also chomped his way to an improved second place finish this year. Marlo Ibanez finished third. The winners won Taste tokens prizes of $50, $30, and $20. The contest was also supported by Herman's Modern Bakery and Fiesta Resort & Spa.

Saturday's entertainment lineup included a preview of the CNMI's performing arts delegates to the Festival of Pacific Arts (FESTPAC) to be held this month in Guam.

"We wanted to provide an opportunity for our delegates to showcase their talent to the community before they head off to represent us at FESTPAC," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "It was awesome to see such a large group of Chamorro and Carolinian dancers performing, and we look forward to more of FESTPAC delegation performances this month."

The MVA has budgeted $50,000 to support the CNMI's participation in the Pacific-wide arts and culture celebration.

Taste of the Marianas offers international cuisine at affordable prices by 17 hotels, restaurants, and drink vendors; non-stop live entertainment on the main stage; nightly contests on the secondary stage; and arts and crafts sales.

Next Saturday's Taste will feature the Pie-eating Competition at the rear stage, at 7pm with the Ages 10-13 Heat, at 7:30pm with the Ages 14-17 Heat, and at 8pm with the Age 18 and Older Heat. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mariana Resort & Spa and 16 other food and beverage vendors, including other members of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, served up dinner and dessert on opening night of the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7, 2016 at the American Memorial Park..

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Furusato Restaurant and 16 other food and beverage vendors served up dinner and dessert on opening night of the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Coral Ocean Point Resort staff describe their desserts to customers on opening night of the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Artists and crafts people displayed and sold their wares–including locally made noni products–on opening night of the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Herman's Modern Bakery served up roast pig and other dishes alongside 16 other food and beverage vendors on opening night of the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International FoodFestival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Simon Necesito, last year's 2nd place finisher, chomps his way to 1st place in the Adult Heat of the Hotdog Eating Competition during the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Conall Hartig, second from right, ruled theAges 10-13 heat of the Hotdog Eating Competition at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden on May 7, 2016. He was followed by Thomas Benavente, right, and Miles Timmons, fourth from right, in third place.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chamorro dancers who will represent the Northern Mariana Islands at this month's Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam perform at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carolinian dancers of the Talabwog Women's Group who will represent the Northern Mariana Islands at this month's Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam perform at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chamorro dancers who will represent the Northern Mariana Islands at this month's Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam perform at the 18th AnnualTaste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden last May 7, 2016, in Saipan.

‘Campaign vs child abuse year-round activity’

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Division of Youth Services administrator Vivian T. Sablan said their campaign against child abuse and neglect does not end in April, but is a yearlong activity that aims to strengthen the family, the smallest component of the community.

The DYS along with their public and private partners like the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence commemorated Sexual Assault and Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month last April.

They culminated the month-long event with a roadside waving last April 29 at the intersection of San Jose in Beach Road.

JON PEREZ
Sparky, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services' mascot, holds a sign to show the agency's support in last month's commemoration of Sexual Assault and Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month.

“The program, child abuse and neglect prevention, is throughout the year and not only for the month of April. We go out to daycare center, schools, and government agencies to conduct various presentations,” said Sablan.

“So that we can educate not only the children but also the adults in what we do on ways to prevent child abuse and neglect, and how to bring the family closer together. We are here to strengthen the families, from the kids to the parents.”

Sablan added that DYS has programs to all members of the family—from the kids, adults to the parents. “Because our ultimate goal is to strengthen the family component of our community. Make sure the home is stable, safe, and each member has a healthy relationship with each other.”

This is the second year that the DYS, its partners, and other volunteer groups have done the awareness campaign against sexual assault, and child abuse and neglect. Sablan said the roadside waving activity is the best way of raising awareness.

“We always reach out to the community and we will continue to do it. We are inviting all our partners and everyone to support us so we could continue the program. Even the private sector comes out and help us and do their share,” she said.

“We’re trying to get the word out and [roadside waving] is the best way to raise awareness since a lot of people get to see us. People who just got out of work or picked up their kids from school, people who are on their way home. The intersection is also a main thoroughfare.”

Sablan added that they also partner with different agencies and get the information out in the media. “We have a lot of ways of getting the message out to the public.”

“There must be no room for child abuse and neglect over here in the CNMI. The urge must be strong for us to protect kids to any form of abuse. It is up to us to bring it up to the community so the public is aware,” she ended.

JKPL has 601 new items

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has a total of 601 new items now cataloged al together like AV2, juvenile, young adult, and adult books.

Desert Heritage: A Western Story. The Plot Against America, Sandworms of Dune, The Halloween Hoax, Song Lee and the Hamster Hunt, Pacific Places, Pacific Histories: Essays in Honor of Robert C. Kiste, Moon Over Manila: A Contemporary Romance, Good Poems for Hard Times, Property Law for Dummies, and *The Nine Commandments: Uncovering a Hidden Pattern of Crime and Punishment in the Hebrew Bible* are the recommended books.

They also have new issues of various magazines while you could also check the daily book sale that also has a wide selection.

JKPL’s new collection of books will be appreciated not only by regular patrons, but also people who have not visited the public library and have wondered what types of books and other items were released each month.

It is not only to promote literacy each and everyday to the people but inform people what’s new, what’s up, and what’s happening. ***(PR)***

2016 Red Cross Walkathon

Special thanks to all 3,000 walkers & donors

Special Thanks to:

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DLNR-Parks and Recreation, Gary Sword-KKMP, Saipan Sabalu Market, Diana Camacho, Regina B. Terlaje, Carrie Mae Camacho, Sgt. Maj. Kiyoshi and SSHS JROTC, Joven Cruz-CTSI Logistics, KSPN2 News, CUC-Power Division, Virgie Avendano, Annie Hayes, Mili Saiki, Happy The Clown, Frank & Ursula Aldan, Homeland Security & Emergency Management, Department of Fire & EMS, DPS and Bank of Guam.

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Health Fair Participants

Ayuda Network, Joeten Kiyu Public Library, Mother Read/ Father Read Program, Commonwealth Respite Service Program, Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition, Commonwealth Cancer Association, Staywell, CHCC Immunization Program, Family Violence Task Force, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Hardt Eye Clinic, Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, CNMI Head Start Program, DYS Juvenile Detention Program, DYS Child Protection Unit, DYS Parent Education, DYS Family & Youth Enhancement, Let’s Move Marianas Alliance, Micronesian Brokers, Maternal Child Health Bureau, Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. Glimpses Plublications/BRM Photo booth

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

YOUR COMMENTS ARE MOST WELCOME:

State Plan for Independent Living FY 2017-2019

Goals

Goal 1 – Enhance and expand the five (5) core IL services (Information & Referral, IL Skills Training, Peer Counseling, Individual and System Advocacy, and Transition) in a manner that will maximize benefits to the greatest number of individuals with significant disabilities.

Goal 2 – Work in collaboration with the CNMI Disability Network Partners especially the State Rehabilitation Council, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Council on Developmental Disabilities, Individuals with disabilities, Family members, and Employers to provide quality services and supports to dual customers resulting in competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities consistent with their interests, skills, abilities, capabilities, informed choice, etc.

Goal 3 – Continue to support the efforts of the CNMI Disability Network Partners especially the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority to improve and expand affordable and available public transportation services including in those areas considered unserved and/or underserved (e.g. Tinian and Rota).

Goal 4 – Promote and support the efforts of community partners to enrich the lives of CNMI residents with disabilities and build a healthier community by pursuing accessible recreational opportunities.

Emeterio S. Fitial
SILC Chairperson

Lydia Igitol
CLI Executive Director

Arlene A. Yamagata, M.S., C.R.C.
OVR Director

Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, provides the authority for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Statewide Independent Living Council (CNMI SILC) and the sole Center for Living Independently in the CNMI (CLI-CNMI) to seek public input on priority needs related to disability issues to guide the development of the next three-year State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) 2017-2019. The State Plan is supported by the currently identified Designated State Entity (DSE), the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. The SPIL is a plan designed to improve Independent Living (IL) services for individuals with disabilities in the CNMI. The IL State Plan also helps to identify the needs and priorities of consumers, providers, and other stakeholders involved in the CLI-CNMI to highlight and identify common strategies. Ultimately, the State Plan is a tool that directs the use of Federal IL funding.

Community Forum on State Plan for Independent Living FY 2017-2019 Goals

ROTA & TINIAN	SAIPAN
(via Video Teleconference)	
Friday, June 10, 2016	Monday, June 13, 2016
3:30pm to 4:30pm	3:00pm to 5:00pm
Northern Marianas College (VTC Room)	CLI-CNMI, House #1366 Anatahan/Guguan Drive, Capitol Hill,

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION:
The CNMI SILC is committed to providing full access for people with disabilities. Public forums are open to the entire community. All forums will be held in locations accessible to people with disabilities. Materials will be provided in alternative formats upon request. American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting and other reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request, please contact Mr. Emeterio Fitial, SILC Chairperson or Ms. Lydia Igitol, CLI-CNMI Executive Director at (670) 322-4303/04 at least seven (7) days before the scheduled forums. Copies will be provided upon request.

WRITTEN COMMENTS
Written comments can be submitted to CNMI SILC before 12:00 P.M. on Friday, June 10, 2016. Comments can be sent via mail to CNMI SILC, P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950, faxed to (670) 322-6548, or e-mailed to fitialemeterio@gmail.com or clicnmi2005@yahoo.com.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Kenya takes a tough line on elephant poachers

Elephant poachers have upped the ante in an attempt to supply Asia's appetite for ivory. Armed with advanced weapons and utilizing war-like tactics, the poachers have turned the lucrative hunt for elephants and their tusks into a grim, ruthless science. Even in Kenya, where elephants are under the protection of the government, poachers are still able to kill the intelligent creature by the thousands annually.

Last month, President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya sent a powerful message that poachers have an implacable foe in Nairobi. Kenyatta ordered that the 105 metric tons of ivory and tusks Kenya confiscated from poachers be ceremonially burned. Message: Ivory is useless if it isn't attached to living elephants. The president personally lit a pyramid of tusks.

"No one, and I repeat, no one has any business in trading in ivory, for this trade means death — the death of our elephants and the death of our natural heritage," Kenyatta said. The black market value of the tusks and recovered ivory was in excess of $100 million.

Kenyatta's point is well taken: The ivory should be considered worthless unless it is attached to living, breathing, thriving elephants. The ivory haul that the president helped burn represents the remains of 6,000 to 7,000 elephants. This is an untenable assault on an intelligent creature that has been on this planet in one form or another longer than humans.

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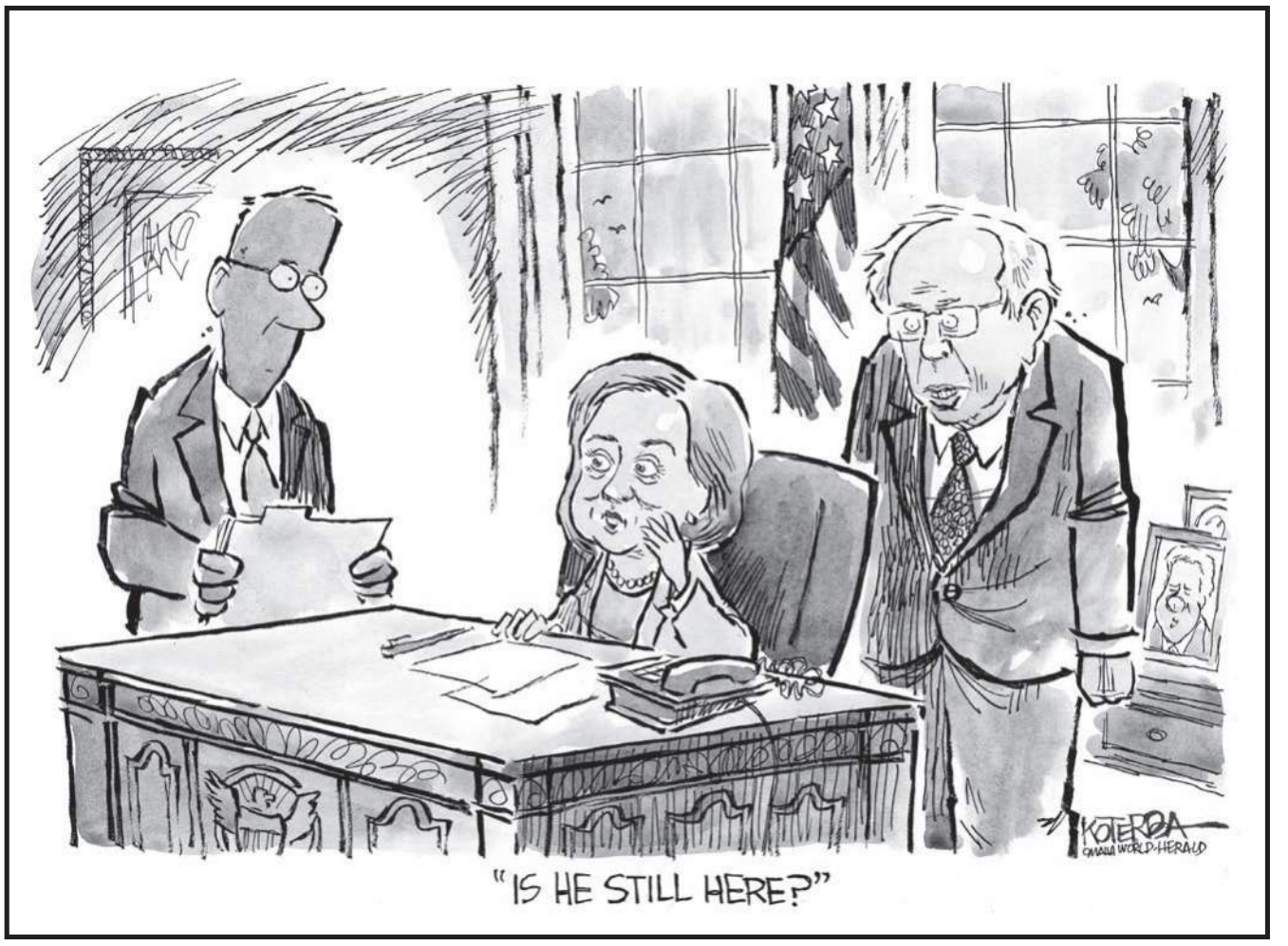
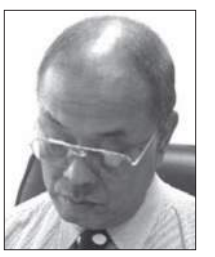


Kehan kotte pot $400,000



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Nigap na ha`ane huna` halom un` keha gi kotte pot usun $400,000 kontra sekretarian depattamenton finance yan segundu gobietnu. I fondu pot batkon MV Luta.

I keha layeye pot para baina` madeklara ni kotte na ayu na disposision fondu tai bali pot makontradise lai konstitusion gi bandan appropriasion salape` publiku.

Si Larissa Larson yan Biktot Hokog gaige gi keha. I konstitusion ilelegña klaru na todu disposision fondun publiku debi u inaprueba solu ni lehislatura. Ti siña i delegasion man-apprueba appropriasion fondu ginen resulasion. Gaige ennau na atoridat gi lehislatura ya debi u tutuhongue` gi sanpapa` na guma`.

Si Biktot Hokog chumoneg este na resulasion `nai gi mismu tiempu ha tuñgu` ha` na siempre u benefisia bisnis familiaña. Desde ñgai`an offisiat publiku masede chumoneg fondu para bisnis familia? Desde tutuhon ma-abusa yan ma-isague lai konstitusion `nai klaru na i pinetsigen Señor Hokog pot interes familiaña. Taigue interes i publiku `nai masaulag supen tasi este na asuntu. Che`chu kabron yan gulosu gadas pot gadas.

Desde ñgai`an masede sekretarian finance umena`e fondun publiku ni tai appropriaision? Haf` na taya` kontrata pot areglun ma-apasen este na dibi ginen i sekretaria?

Haye otru na bisnis manana`e fondun publiku ginen inapprueban resulasion? Kau magahet na man-dididi i publiku gi familian Biktot Hokog na ha hasñgun dumisattende ginagau konstitusion gi este na asuntu?

Mientras tantos, siempre u anog mas mana` taimanu usun este na fondu. Mas u gatdon i sekretarian depattamenton finance yan si Biktot Hokog `nai oppan publikamente manlache siha usun este na fondu. Te`ug i asuntu lau presisu na debi tana` klaru pot uttimu besis. I gobienamentun iya Marianas minananda lai siha ahe` ti ginen mañan diktatot ginen `nos kuantos tarugu`! Gobietnamentun lai sistemata!

Che`chu` Kabron: Masoda` ni konsuttadot CUC na megai na elektrisida maliliñgu entalu` i power plant estake u fattu gi tautau. Ni unu tumuñgu` malag mamanu ayu na maliñgu.

Lau ha biragu` i CUC ya hana` fan apase i publiku nu ayu na maliñgu. Haf` taimanu na hita para ta apase diskuiduña maliñgun kandet? Gi primet lugat tita usa haf` maliñgu na elektrisida dispues gi hilu` insuttu hita mana` fan man-apase? Manu `nai mañoda` i CUC kuentasña?

Hombre ke unu gigon hit man-dilikuente ha utot ensegidas setbisiun kandet yan hanom. Pues umokakat ya ha umpañg gastun diskuiduña gi publiku. Magahet na mantai konsensia hamyu chumogue haf` propiu yan dinanche? Adahe na kontodu dibin gobietnu kandet mas o`menos $30 miyon pesus in` yeti guatu gi publiku kadu ti in` hasñgon. Na para che`chu` miron yan kabron!

I konsuttadot ha mente lokue` na i presente na kapasidat kandet tinahuñg para otru siha nuebu na pinelun` adelantu (investment) ni manlalailai gi oriya. Ha nesessita Saipan nuebu na power plant. Sin este siempre todu mañgetun ñaihon nuebu na pine`lu (investment).

Dos fasilidat libianu inaminasa `an mababa i nuebu na hotel giya Garapan: kandet yan hanom. Mas didog probleman segundu attikulu para residenten Garapan, bisnis, yan eskuela. Muñga sa` mama` siudan mutuñg iya Garapn na biahe.

Tradision Respetu: Guaha lai federat pot usun che`chu` `sino finatinas otru tautau mafanana`an "copyright" ni mumanda finaisen petmissu. Debi umana` halom este yan $25 pesus gi kada materiat gi Library of Congress giya Washington, D.C.

Pot para baina` klaru, i tiuhu Bilin (William S. Reyes) yan asaguaña as Maria lamegai tinige` niha kanta pot ha`anen gupot siha `sino noche buena. Tat ti tumuñgu` este siha na kantan sa` oppan gi todu gima` Yuus gi enteru iya Marianas. Siha umesgaihon i korun gima Yuus CK pot apmam na tiempu. Entalu` gima Yuus yan kuatton eskuela, estague` kontribusion dos saina giya hita. Bien felis sa` esta mangaige gi taihinekog na deskansu.

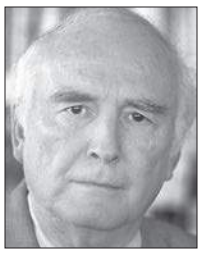
Lau guaha umatrebi siha umapudera tinige` i dos sainahu tat kumu si defuntu Bokuñgo` yan Kandido Taman. Sin petmissu mama` kepble i dos gi materiat otru. Ni sikiera fatsu na agradesimientu gi hechuran misan matai para i los probes. Lau fotmat ma-apudera kantan niha siha. Haf` na fiestan palacha` i masusede. Kuttura i para un` fañaluda ni ti tihoñgmu?

Tai intensionyu` fumaichanak ni unu lau debi in` fan fagahot haf` sustansian direchon dueñun orihinat na kanta siha desde antes de in` fan echu tautau.

Ma-usa lokue` sin petmisu tinige` biuhu Elias P. Sablan "Mafañago I Nino" ni ha translada i tiahu Marikita gi finu` Chamorro. Na ti establisau gi kuttura sensian unestu, integredat yan agradesimientu `an para un` usa finachochu` otru? Malag manu` i amtau na sensian respetu guine na biahe? Manu `nai in` pe`lu abilidat mañgge orihinat na sunidu? Kulan lamayot patte este

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Ryan would be wise to endorse Trump soon



By DAN K. THOMASSON
Tribune News Service

Dan Thomasson is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service *and a former vice president of Scripps Howard Newspapers. Readers may send him email at thomassondan@aol.com.*

WASHINGTON—Paul Ryan has little choice but to endorse Donald Trump … sooner rather than later. To do otherwise probably would cost him Speakership of the House, and might end his political career much too soon.

Furthermore, his lack of support would risk him being listed in history as one of the architects of an irrevocably divided Republican Party blamed for another horrendous defeat, with the possibility of creating a permanent third party. You might think that's a bit hysterical; that endorsements or lack of them don't mean that much. That is often the case. But not when the refusal of support comes from the person who is up next after the vice president in the succession to the Oval Office. Ryan is the highest Republican official in the nation.

It is one thing for the two former Bush presidents — George Herbert Walker and George W. — to make it clear they would be unavailable for the Republican Convention in Cleveland, or for the 2012 GOP nominee — Mitt Romney — to disavow Trump's expected nomination. It is quite another for Ryan to do so. Denying support to the party's presumptive nominee by him would be unthinkable.

That's why the two — Trump and Ryan — will meet this week to come to some kind of an accommodation over direction of the party. The urgency to settle this in Trump's favor is palpable. Too long a delay would cast doubt on the sincerity of a Ryan pledge of support. It would be like Dwight Eisenhower in 1960, when asked why then Vice President Richard Nixon, should be president. Eisenhower replied that if given a few days, he would come up with an answer. The remark played a part in Nixon's defeat.

Few people understand the perils of this more than the 1996 Republican nominee Bob Dole. The 92 year-old former Kansas senator and Republican majority leader endorsed Trump Friday, stating what seems obvious —the only way to defeat Hillary Clinton (the expected Democratic nominee) is with a unified party. Dole, a war hero and a highly respected elder statesman, carries as much weight in the endorsement game as anyone except perhaps Ryan.

Current Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell was quick to throw his unqualified support to Trump despite his earlier opposition to the New York billionaire's candidacy. This, of course, is just another sign that the Republican leadership at most levels — derisively called the "establishment" by conservative detractors — can be expected to fall in line with few exceptions. Even some of Trump's main detractors among his fellow candidates in the primaries have been quick to reverse their positions.

Former candidates like New Jersey Gov. Chris Christy and surgeon Ben Carson endorsed Trump almost immediately after giving up and dropping out. Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul also has swung to Trump since ending his campaign. Another early dropout — former Texas Gov. Rick Perry — is on board with Trump. The last two Trump challengers, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Ohio Gov. John Kasich, have yet to follow suit.

Is the war over? Hardly.

A number of those pledging support to the party's "nominee" are doing so without naming Trump and with their fingers firmly pinching their noses. That includes John McCain, another former GOP nominee. But two important figures, Sen. Lindsay Graham of South Carolina and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, both once among the army of candidates seeking this year's brass ring, have made it clear at this time they want nothing to do with Trump.

Top analysts say that many of the naysayers are maneuvering to bring Trump more closely to their positions on a variety of issues, to moderate his stances that have offended so many voting blocs including women and Hispanics. Trump may be in the process of calming down his rhetoric, not an unusual action after winning the nomination and heading for the general election. Some observers believe, however, that calming his approach too much might be a mistake, disengaging the angry primary voters who brought him to this point.

One thing seems apparent. If the Republicans are to defeat the Democratic candidate, even one with negatives as high as Hillary Clinton's, they must come together quickly. Ryan knows this and can be expected to end any sense of detachment in the matter quickly. Otherwise, the fortunes of the Republican Party and, for that matter, the two-party system as we know it, are at grave risk.

Trump has one strategy for defeating Clinton

By FRANCIS WILKINSON
Bloomberg View

Francis Wilkinson is a Bloomberg View *columnist. Readers may send him email at fwilkinson1@bloomberg.net.*

There are two ways that Donald Trump can become president. Either he must become significantly more popular among general-election voters. Or his likely opponent, Hillary Clinton, must become significantly more unpopular.

It won't take long for Trump to figure out which is the more promising path.

Right now, flush with optimism after a stunning victory over more than a dozen primary foes, Trump's campaign has both goals in sight. Trump is hoping to rally conservatives and independents behind his candidacy. In his victory speech after the Indiana primary last week, Trump magnanimously refrained from calling defeated Sen. Ted Cruz a liar, or implying that Cruz's father aided the assassination of an American president. It was a veritable charm offensive.

Yet there are stark limits to Trump's appeal. His genuine political talent is utterly divorced from anything resembling wisdom. He remains offensive to multiple blocs of voters and ignorant of public policy. His unfavorable ratings — especially the number of Americans who hold a "strongly unfavorable" view of him — are, as Harry Enten of FiveThirtyEight wrote, from "another planet."

In polling from late March through late April, Enten reported, Trump's aggregate "strongly unfavorable" figure was 53 percent. That is, by spring, a majority of Americans were already strongly opposed to him. If you add his strongly favorable (positive) rating to his strongly unfavorable (negative) rating, the net is overwhelmingly negative, about minus 40.

Mario Cuomo said that successful politicians campaign in poetry but govern in prose. Trump campaigns in Fahrenheit, but polls in Kelvin.

The one relatively warm spot for Trump in a chilly electorate is Clinton. She, too, is unpopular. Add her strongly favorable rating to her strongly unfavorable, and Clinton nets about minus 20. It's not other-worldly like Trump's. But it's bad.

The question for Trump, then, is how to exploit her weakness.

Clinton has been subjected to a quarter century of political and personal attacks, many of them vicious, more than a few outlandish. For every smear of President Barack Obama as a Kenyan anticolonial socialist or terrorist enabler, Clinton can probably cite two similarly inspired delusions — that she killed White House aide Vincent Foster or, for reasons no one ever seems able to explain, that she preferred to let a handful of Americans die in Benghazi rather than use her powers as secretary of State to protect them.

But the differences between Obama and Clinton are at least as telling as the similarities. More than half of Americans consistently have rated Obama "honest and trustworthy" during his presidency. Of nine Gallup measurements taken between 2008 and 2015, Obama fell below 50 percent only once, in 2014. In April 2008, the spring of his first campaign for president, 60 percent of Gallup respondents said Obama was honest and trustworthy.

By contrast, in a March 2016 Washington Post/ABC News poll, 37 percent of adults agreed that Hillary Clinton is honest and trustworthy, and 57 percent said they don't think she is. Even Democrats aren't sold. In Wisconsin, where Bernie Sanders defeated her on April 5, exit polls showed only 57 percent of Democratic voters rated her honest and trustworthy. Two weeks later in her home state of New York, which she won, only 60 percent of Democrats leaving the polls said she was honest and trustworthy.

Neither Sanders in 2016 nor Obama in 2008 aggressively attacked Clinton's integrity. She finds herself in this hole as a result of conservative attacks on her and of doubts she raised by her own actions. History weighs on her.

Clinton's six-figure speeches to Wall Street, after she left the Obama administration, ring the cash register a bit louder because they echo the questions dating from her trading of cattle futures, in the late 1970s. Her use of a private email server while secretary of state, and the convoluted excuses it has engendered, is reminiscent of previous instances when this strikingly intelligent, detail-oriented professional claimed, in so many words, to be relying on the kindness of strangers.

The vast right-wing conspiracy against the Clintons is no dark fantasy. For more than two decades, it has been a concrete blot on the political landscape. Her resort to private email was in all likelihood an effort to dodge those prying partisan eyes. Avoiding one trap, she entered another.

At Clinton's landmark April 1994 White House news conference on Whitewater and Hillarycare and cattle futures and whatever else fit the catch-all portfolio of this path-breaking first lady, a reporter asked, "Is there a fundamental distrust of the Clintons in America?"

The question, 22 years later, is still live. Trump is unlikely to gain traction against Clinton arguing about experience or temperament or preparedness or ideas. She overwhelms him on every count. Given his voluminous record of falsehoods, breathtaking at the presidential level of politics, he probably can't win a contest on integrity either. But Trump is a very successful bully. He intuitively understands weakness. He will find a way to hurt her.

KEHAN

From Page 10

mahasñgon pot che`chu` ladron yan gulosu. Lau kasse ma-usa lai halom tanu` (jungle rules) ma-apudera ti kantan niha.

Fitial: Gi modetnu na mantitige` kanta (sunidu yan palabra) taya` achaiguaña si Señor Felix R. Fitial. Lamegai tinige`ña orihinat na kanta siha ni oppan punta pot punta gi atkipelagon iya Marinas. In` hassu "I papa` i kandet", "Mames Korason" yan "Adios Korason?" `Nos kuantos kanta tinige`na man-bonitu parehu ha` palabra yan sotfa. Guiya mumirese dañkulu na onru pot kontribusioña. Hu tuñgu` si Mr. Fitial kumu hagas maestro gi eskuelan elementariu, CK.

Daibites: Iya Asia na patte gi enteru elmundu kumeke fama` sentru chenot daibites. Miyon pot miyon giya China, Japon yan otru siha nasion gi oriya man-nina`ye megai gi tautau niha nu estena chenot.

Usun hinegsa` apaka`, asukat, asiga, fina` mames siha, mantikan ga`ga` ni hinegse ni taya` eksisiu primera na chalan para chenot daibites. Mas chadeg tinatme i tautau gi inamko`ña. Hasan i tautau isla `nai nina`ye nu este na chenot. Lau `nai matulaika bisioña gi sentadaña diariu `nai ha tutuhon sumulon halom gi tropan daibites.

Taya` siña tumulaika bisiun sentada yan eksisiu ke hita mismu. Gaige asuntu gi dos patman kanaita. Tutuhon tumulaika haf` pa`gu bisiomu ya un` daña`e familiamu sin ditension. Magahet na mañge` maipen hinegsa` apaka` yan totcheta siha ni tarega manadan asiga.

Esgaihon familiamu guattu gi safu na puetton hinemlu`! I kualidat hinemlo`mu yan ha`animu hagu solu kapitan ennau na galaide`.

■■■

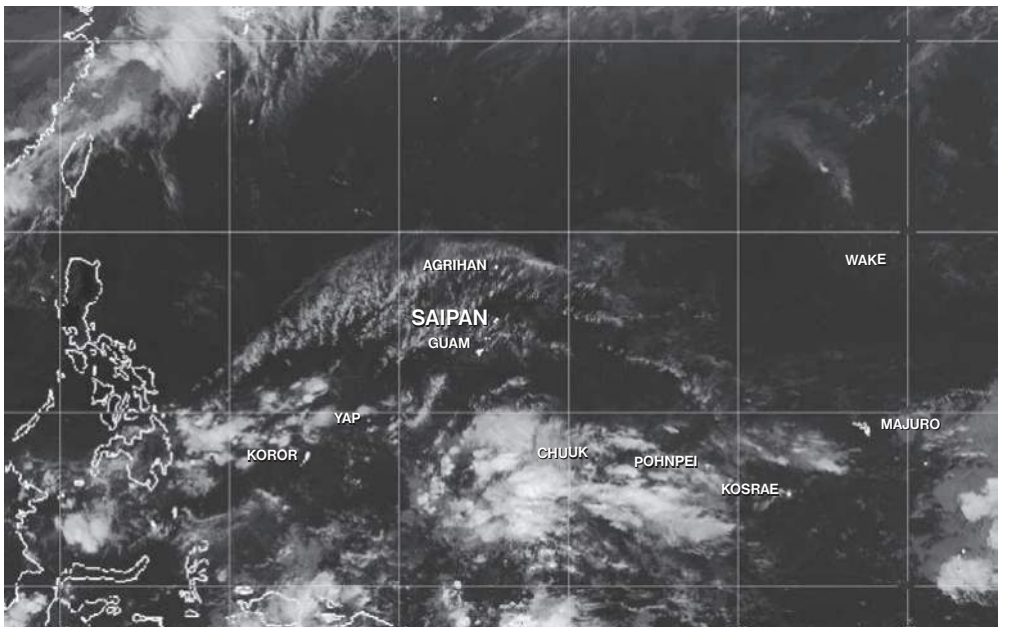
Enfin, yangin guaha mauleg na adelantun rinikohen aduana (tax) na sakan, kase ti lache yangin matutuhon ma-apase dibin land compensation, adelantun setbisiun hinemlu` yan nesessidat sisteman edukasion. Este na pinetsige umasegura na amtau kinalamten iya Marianas.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Moderate to fresh trade winds dominate across Micronesia. Trade winds converging in either speed direction or both are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across northern Palau and Yap state between 8N and 12N from 130E to 140E south of the Marianas between 1N and 9N from 141E to 150E across Chuuk state between 3N and 8N from 150E to 156E. A trade-wind disturbance over the Marshall Islands is producing much needed scattered showers and a few thunderstorms mainly between 1N and 6N from 170E to 180. An upper-level trough extends from near 22N180 to 18N180 to 12N175E. Divergent upper-level winds east and south of the trough are creating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 11N and 16N from 176E to 180. The winds are also promoting thick clouds over the Marshall Islands between 6N and 11N from 169E to 179E. There were some showers in this area earlier and more will likely spring up. A surface trough west of Wake island is triggering scattered showers north of 22N to beyond 25N and from 159E to 167E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼81

Around the Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲73	▼62
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼63
Hong Kong	Showers	▲85	▼77
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼70
London	Rain	▲66	▼55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼56
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲97	▼80
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲63	▼58
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼74
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼53
Osaka	Rain	▲69	▼55
Paris	Showers	▲69	▼57
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼53
Rome	Thundershowers	▲75	▼61
Salem	Sunny	▲79	▼49
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼53
Seoul	Sunny	▲74	▼51
Tokyo	Showers	▲75	▼63
Washington, DC	Rain	▲61	▼53

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:39 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
6:24 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
11:05 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
6:30 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:37 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:56 AM	11:02 PM
Thursday	10:52 AM	11:52 PM
Friday	11:45 AM	
Saturday	12:36 PM	12:37 AM
Sunday	1:26 PM	1:20 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Coast Guard rescues 4 from overdue skiff in Micronesia

HONOLULU—The Coast Guard rescued four fishermen from an 18-foot skiff 61 miles west southwest of Fais Island, in the Federated States of Micronesia, Monday.

The crew of the USCGC *Assateague* (WPB 1136) located the skiff, brought the fishermen aboard and is currently en route Falalep Island with the skiff in tow.

"This case illustrates the importance of our partnerships in the Pacific to respond quickly and work together to cover vast remote distances," said Lt. William White, a search and rescue controller at Sector Guam. "Additionally we recommend leaving word, as these men did, with friends or family about your voyage and intended time of return to alert responders to potential distress situations."

Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector Guam received notification of the overdue vessel Sunday morning. The crew reportedly left Fais Island on a five-hour trip Saturday and failed to return prompting the call to responders from Pan-Pacific Education and Communication Experiments by Satellite.

PEACESAT provides public service satellite telecommunications to remote islands throughout the Pacific and has been the source of notification to authorities outside of FSM for many years.

The watchstanders immediately began coordinating a search for the fishermen, reportedly aboard a white-hulled skiff with red interior with outboard motor. A crew from Pacific Missionary Airlines initially sighted the vessel approximately 35 miles southeast of Ulithi Island Sunday. The Assateague was directed to the scene and located the vessel Monday afternoon, dead in the water, with all four men aboard in good condition.

A Navy P-8 fixed wing plane crew from CTF-72 in Misawa, Japan, along with two FSS vessels from Micronesia and a Coast Guard HC-130 airplane crew from Air Station Barber's Point on Oahu, Hawaii were requested to assist in the search, but were stood down after the Assateague arrived on-scene and safely recovered the four men.

The Coast Guard recommends taking additional supplies, food and water, a VHF-FM radio and a personal locator beacon if possible every time mariners leave port. Distress situations can arise at any time and being prepared can reduce search times and improve the chances of being rescued.

The *Assateague* is a 110-foot Island-class patrol boat home-ported in Guam. Their missions include search and rescue, fisheries enforcement, other law enforcement and ports, waterways and coastal security.

Micronesia is a sub-region of Oceania, comprising thousands of small islands in the western Pacific Ocean. It is a sovereign island nation that is an American associated state made up of four smaller states to include Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae. Use of skiffs is very common. The nearest U.S. Coast Guard unit is located in Guam, more than 1,000 miles away. ***(PR)***

USS *Chicago* to hold change of command

SANTA RITA, Guam—Cmdr. Brian Turney will relieve Cmdr. Lance Thompson as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS *Chicago* (SSN 721) during a ceremony at the Naval Base Guam theater May 12.

Capt. Jeffrey Grimes, commander, Submarine Squadron (SUBRON) 15 will be the guest speaker for the ceremony.

Thompson has commanded Chicago for approximately three years during which, *Chicago* completed eight Combined Task Force 74 operational periods, nine exercises, three theater anti-submarine warfare periods, five foreign port visits and ten foreign port stops for personnel. Thompson and his crew completed Operation Heavy Thunder for Commander, 7th Fleet last month, demonstrating key tactical and strategic warfighting capabilities and returned from national tasking May 8.

Thompson was selected for promotion to captain and will head to SUBRON 15 as their senior deputy commander following Chicago's change of command.

Chicago was commissioned Sept. 27, 1986, and is the Navy's 34th Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine. Measuring 360 feet long and displacing more than 6,900 tons, Chicago has a crew of approximately 140 Sailors and is capable of supporting various missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike warfare, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

Chicago is a member of SUBRON 15, which is located at Polaris Point, in Piti, Guam. CSS-15 staff is responsible for providing training, material and personnel readiness support of four Los Angeles-class attack submarines stationed in Guam. The submarines and submarine tenders USS Frank Cable (AS 40) and USS Emory S. Land (AS 39) are maintained as part of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed submarine force and are readily capable of meeting global operational requirements.

For more news from Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, visit http://www.csp.navy.mil/css15 and https://www.facebook.com/SubmarineSquadron15/.

Members of the media interested in covering the ceremony should contact the Submarine Squadron 15 Public Affairs Officer, Lt. Lauren Gaidry, no later than Wednesday, May 11, at 4 p.m. Contact information is (671) 343-5110/ (671) 687-5531 or lauren.gaidry@fe.navy.mil. ***(PR)***

UOG students create marketing plan for Tumon Sands Plaza

The University of Guam BA-260 Fundamentals of Marketing Class will be presenting its Marketing Plan for the Tumon Sands Plaza on Saturday, May 14, 2016 beginning at 5:30pm at the Tumon Sands Plaza. The presentation will also feature a Spring Fashion Show, Accessory Fashion Show, Watabe Wedding Show, Talent Show, and more.

The students are coordinating the event as their final project for the class. "I wanted the students to participate in an educational and academic activity that goes beyond the classroom and textbook materials," said Ramon Perez, adjunct marketing professor. "It will be a hands-on experience for the students to learn what it takes to present their marketing strategies to the Plaza."

The event is supported by Tumon Sands Plaza, and participating stores include: Anteprima, Balenciaga, Bally, Chloe, Furla, Givenchy, Loco Boutique, Swarovski, Tiffany & Co., and Watabe Wedding.

The event is open to the public, and light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Ramon Perez at mhonnp27@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

DFS DONATES TO GOVERNOR'S TOURISM CUP CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DFS Saipan Ltd. president Marian Aldan-Pierce presents a check to Vicky Benavente, Marianas Tourism Education Council chairman. DFS Saipan is a major sponsor contributing $3,000 in cash and in-kind to the Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2016. Also in the photo are, from left, Martin Duenas, MVA PR and Community Programs manager; Larry Lee, MTEC director; Benavente; Aldan-Pierce; James Nelson, MVA director and tournament director; Ben Babauta, DFS assistant general manager; and Milan Rabold, DFS general manager.

USCIS to implement Filipino WWII veterans parole program

WASHINGTON—Beginning June 8, 2016, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will allow certain Filipino World War II veteran family members who are beneficiaries of approved family-based immigrant visa petitions an opportunity to receive a discretionary grant of parole on a case-by-case basis, so that they may come to the United States as they wait for their immigrant visa to become available.

This parole policy was announced in the White House report, Modernizing and Streamlining Our Legal Immigration System for the 21st Century, issued in July 2015. An estimated 2,000 to 6,000 Filipino-American World War II veterans are living in the United States today. Among other things, this policy will enable many eligible individuals to provide support and care to their aging veteran family members who are U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.

"The Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program honors the thousands of Filipinos who bravely enlisted to fight for the United States during World War II," USCIS Director León Rodríguez said. "This policy will allow certain Filipino-American family members awaiting immigrant-visa issuance to come to the United States and be with their loved ones. For many, it will also allow them to provide support and care for elderly veterans or their surviving spouses."

With the exception of immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, the number of family-sponsored immigrant visas available by country of origin in any given year is limited by statute. These limits result in long waiting periods before family members may join petitioning U.S. citizens or permanent residents in the United States and become permanent residents themselves. For some Filipino-American families, this wait can exceed 20 years.

Under the policy, certain family members of Filipino World War II veterans may be eligible to receive a discretionary grant of parole to come to the United States before their visa becomes available. In limited cases, certain eligible relatives will be able to seek parole on their own behalf when their Filipino World War II veteran and his or her spouse are both deceased.

Under the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program, USCIS will review each case individually to determine whether authorizing parole is appropriate. When each individual arrives at a U.S. port of entry, U.S. Customs and Border Protection will also review each case to determine whether to parole the individual.

Legal authority for this parole policy comes from the Immigration and Nationality Act, which authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to parole into the United States certain individuals, on a case-by-case basis, for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.

Additional information about the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program—including guidance on eligibility, the application process and where to file—is available in the revised Form I-131 instructions and the Federal Register notice published today. We will not accept applications under this policy until June 8, 2016. USCIS strongly encourages eligible individuals interested in requesting parole under the FWVP Program do so within 5 years from June 8, 2016.

For more information about USCIS and its programs, please visit www.uscis.gov or follow us on Twitter (@uscis), YouTube (/uscis), Facebook(/uscis), and the USCIS blog The Beacon. ***(PR)***

Business

Treasury Secretary hopes to jump-start help for Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew got a first-hand look at the humanitarian impact of Puerto Rico's $70 billion debt crisis Monday, touring an elementary school struggling with limited electricity and a hospital unable to provide some basic services to infants.

"It can only get worse," Lew told reporters as he toured Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School in San Juan with Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla.

The Obama administration hopes to jump-start congressional efforts to aid the U.S. territory, and Lew's one-day trip focused attention on how the 3.5 million U.S. citizens living on the island are struggling with the worsening financial situation.

At a brief news conference after a private tour of San Juan's Centro Medico hospital, Lew said Puerto Rico's problems were a human crisis as well as financial. He said infants who needed dialysis were unable to get it while children could only get cancer medicine if it were paid for in advance with cash.

Lew said he didn't think there was a member of Congress who would find those conditions acceptable.

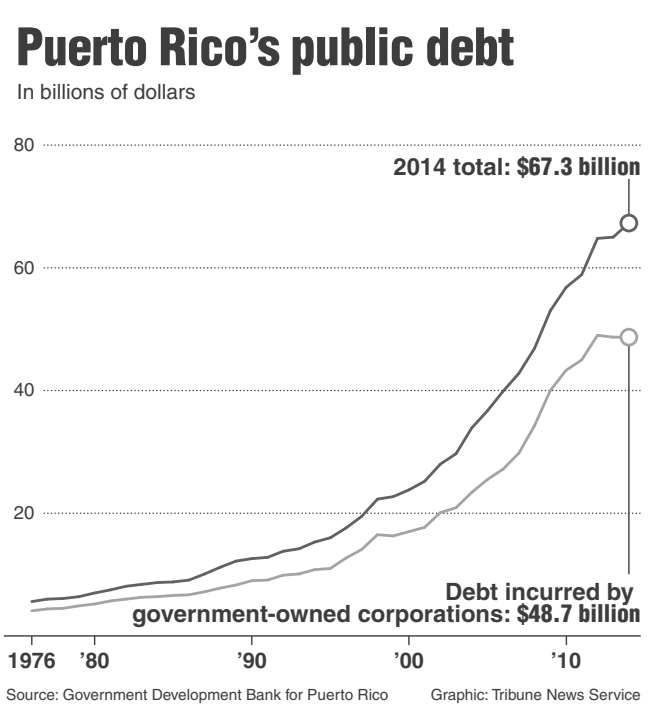
"What I have gotten to see first-hand is there is a growing crisis in Puerto Rico," Lew said.

House Republicans are expected to announce new legislation this week to create a control board to help manage the island's financial obligations and oversee some debt restructuring. It would be the third draft of the House bill, which has come under fire from some conservatives who worry it would set a precedent for financially ailing states.

In a kindergarten classroom, a teacher showed Lew and Garcia evidence of termites in the walls. The school has problems with electricity, and teachers said they were unable to use laptops, televisions and fans at the same time because they cause the power to go out.

In a fourth-grade classroom, a fan was broken on a hot day. A science teacher told Lew that she doesn't have a lab for the children to do experiments.

"You all keep doing your work and we'll keep doing our work to help you," Lew told the children.



Garcia said that Puerto Rico is not asking for a bailout and has not been offered one.

"If Congress does not act then we will need a bailout, and it will be very expensive to U.S. taxpayers," he said.

The territory missed a nearly $370 million bond payment May 1. The default was the largest in a series of missed payments since last year, and Garcia has warned there will be more.

Puerto Rico has payments totaling nearly $2 billion due on July 1, including more than $700 million in general obligation bonds that are supposed to be guaranteed under the island's constitution. In an ominous warning to Congress and creditors that include U.S. hedge funds, Garcia said the outlook for the next payment is bleak.

"We don't anticipate having the money," he said last week.

Garcia said he had no choice but to suspend the debt payment to avoid cutting essential public services, such as schools and medical care.

Natural Resources Committee Chairman Rob Bishop, R-Utah, has led negotiations in the House. In addition to disagreement among conservatives, Bishop has also faced objections from Democrats and Puerto Rican officials who say they are concerned the oversight board would be too powerful and the restructuring plan would be too difficult.

Small-car deals abound as US buyers go crazy for SUVs

DETROIT (AP)—Louis Cervi was looking to buy a small car for basic transportation with a monthly payment in the mid-$200 range.

After six months of looking, Cervi, 41, drove off a dealer lot north of Pittsburgh in a Ford Focus for $192 a month. The dealership even accepted his 2001 Chevrolet Monte Carlo with a failed transmission as a down payment on his lease.

"I thought I'd probably get something in the $240 (per month) range," Cervi says. "It was the end of the month, so I think I got kind of lucky there. They were trying to meet a quota."

With many Americans rushing to buy trucks and SUVs, there are good deals to be had on cars, especially smaller models. In April, supplies of small cars on dealer lots grew to the highest level in seven years. Automakers are resorting to discounts and sweetened lease deals to move the metal—especially with models that haven't been updated in a few years.

In the 12 months ended April 30, small-car sales fell more than 6 percent, according to Ward's Automotive. At the same time, truck and SUV sales combined grew more than 10 percent. So far this year, about 54 percent of U.S. vehicle sales have been trucks and SUVs. Just two years ago, cars ruled the market at 51 percent. While trucks and SUVs are expected to help the industry set a new annual sales record above 17.5 million vehicles this year, some experts are predicting a continued slowdown in sales of cars

There are a number of reasons for the shift. Gas prices are low. SUVs generally are smaller, lighter and more efficient than in the past. Older people like the higher seating position an SUV offers because it's easier to get in and out, and people of all ages use the hatchback and ample storage space.

Study: Sanders' economic plan piles $18T on federal debt

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Bernie Sanders' tax and spending proposals would provide new levels of health and education benefits for American families, but they'd also blow an $18-trillion hole in federal deficits, piling on so much debt they would damage the economy.

That sobering assessment comes from a joint analysis released Monday by the nonpartisan Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and the Urban Institute Health Policy Center, well-known Washington think tanks.

Democratic presidential candidate Sanders would raise taxes by more than $15 trillion over 10 years, with most of that paid by upper-income earners.

But that wouldn't be enough to cover the cost of his proposed government-run health care system, along with free undergraduate college, enhanced Social Security, family and medical leave, among other new programs. The cost of the health care plan alone is more than $30 trillion, according to the study.

The bottom line: Sanders would add $18 trillion to federal debt over a decade. That's about double the current total government debt of $19 trillion.

"The dramatic increase in government borrowing would crowd out private investment, raise interest rates, further increase government borrowing costs and retard economic growth," the analysis concluded.

In a statement, the Sanders campaign said the analysis "wildly overestimates" the cost of the Vermont senator's health care proposal.

The campaign also said the analysis "significantly underestimates" health care savings through less bureaucracy, simplified paperwork and lower prescription drug prices, similar to what other countries with government-run systems have achieved.

"If every other major country can spend less on health care and insure all of their people, so can the U.S.," the campaign said.

But economist John Holahan of the Health Policy Center said those countries put their systems in place decades ago, and he doubts modern-day America could easily achieve comparable savings.

Panama Papers database of offshore companies goes live

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—A group of investigative journalists on Monday published the names of thousands of offshore companies at the heart of a massive trove of data on the finances of the rich and powerful that has become known as the Panama Papers.

The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists made data on 200,000 entities available on its website at 1800 GMT (2 p.m. EDT) Monday.

They contain basic corporate information about companies, trusts and foundations set up in 21 jurisdictions including Hong Kong and the U.S. state of Nevada. The data was obtained from Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca, which said it was hacked.

Users can search the data and see the networks involving the offshore companies, including, where available, Mossack Fonseca's internal records of the true owners.

Information and documents on bank accounts, phone numbers and emails have been removed from the database.

Mossack Fonseca said last week it had sent a cease and desist letter to the ICIJ urging the organization not to publish the database, "taking into consideration that it is based on the theft of confidential information."

The ICIJ said it was putting the information online "in the public interest" as "a careful release of basic corporate information," not a "data dump," as it builds on an earlier database of offshore entities.

Setting up an offshore company is not by itself illegal or evidence of illegal conduct, and Mossack Fonseca said it observed rules requiring it to identify its clients.

The ICIJ prefaced the database release by noting that the appearance of particular persons and companies on the list doesn't imply wrongdoing.

But anti-poverty campaigners say shell companies can be used by the wealthy and powerful to shield money from taxation, or to launder the gains from bribery, embezzlement and other forms of corruption. The Group of 20 most powerful economies has agreed that individual governments should make sure authorities can tell who really owns legally registered companies, but implementation in national law has lagged.

The data cache, first leaked to Germany's Sueddeutsche Zeitung daily, showed offshore holdings of 12 current and former world leaders. Sueddeutsche Zeitung says it was given the information by an anonymous source.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
17,705.91	2,058.69	4,750.21
-34.72	+1.55	+14.05
-0.20%	0.08%	0.30%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3654	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7626	Philippine Peso	46.905
British Pound	0.6938	Indian Rupee	66.71	Singapore Dollar	1.3711
Canadian Dollar	1.2972	Indonesian Rupiah	13325	South Korean Won	1173.365
Chinese Yuan	6.5185	Japanese Yen	108.78	Swiss Franc	0.9713
Euro	0.8785	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0608	Taiwan Dollar	32.5425
		New Zealand Dollar	1.4827	Thailand Baht	35.2365

Nation

Anxiety over Trump cuts into House Republicans' support

WASHINGTON (AP)—Anxiety over Donald Trump spread among congressional Republicans Monday, pushing several to follow House Speaker Paul Ryan's lead and withhold their support from the divisive billionaire. Ryan himself declared there's no point in trying to "fake" party unity.

"If we go forward pretending that we're unified, then we are going to be at half-strength this fall," Ryan told The Journal Times in Racine, Wisconsin, defending his stunning decision last week to refuse to endorse his party's presumptive presidential nominee.

Still, in interviews with home-state reporters Monday, Ryan denounced the idea of any Republican launching a third-party or independent candidacy to challenge Trump, telling the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel it "would be a disaster for our party."

And Ryan said he'd step aside from the House speaker's traditional role as chairman of the Republican National Convention if Trump wants him to, a scenario that Trump left open over the weekend, underscoring the depths of strife now afflicting a GOP divided against itself.

"He's the nominee. I'll do whatever he wants in respect to the convention," Ryan said, striking a conciliatory note.

Trump himself shrugged off the need for unity heading into the November general election and a likely match-up against Democrat Hillary Clinton, even though that would be the goal in any normal election year after a candidate effectively clinches the nomination, as Trump did last week.

"I think this is a time for unity. And if there's not going to be unity, I think that's OK, too," Trump said on Fox Business Network. "I mean, I'll go out and I think I'll do very well. I think I'm going to win the race either way."

The comments from Ryan and Trump came as both men prepared for a face-to-face meeting Thursday, which Republican leaders hope will begin to mend the fabric of their party. Trump will also meet Thursday with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and other Senate GOP leaders.

Still, ahead of the meeting, Ryan's negative stance appeared to be providing cover for some vulnerable Republicans who are anxious to distance themselves from Trump and his controversial comments about women, Latinos, prisoners of war and others.

Pennsylvania Sen. Pat Toomey, one of the most endangered Senate Republicans, wrote an opinion piece in the Philadelphia Inquirer drawing back from his long-stated intent to back the GOP nominee.

"His vulgarity, particularly toward women, is appalling. His lack of appreciation for constitutional limits on executive powers is deeply concerning. ... In short, I find his candidacy highly problematic," Toomey wrote of Trump. "There could come a point at which the differences are so great as to be irreconcilable."

AP

In this March 14, 2016 file photo, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump gives a thumbs up as New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie waves to the crowd as they walk off the stage after a rally at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, N.C.

2 confirmed dead in Oklahoma as tornadoes hit Plains

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Tornadoes swept across portions of the Plains on Monday, killing two people in Oklahoma including an elderly man who was inside a home that was torn apart by one of the violent storms.

An emergency management director said a man believed to be in his upper 70s died when a tornado hit a home near Wynnewood, south of Oklahoma City. Authorities also confirmed the death of a man near the town of Connerville, Johnston County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Stacey Pulley said.

The storm was considered so violent that forecasters declared a "tornado emergency" for communities in the twister's path.

"You are in a life-threatening situation," forecasters declared while warning the communities of Roff, population 725, and Hickory, population 71, which were ultimately spared major damage. "Flying debris will be deadly to those caught without shelter."

Dana Lance was driving through the Pontotoc County community of Roff on her way home from work Monday when the skies grew ominous, and she heard tornado sirens and forecasters on the radio urging people in the area to take cover.

"I parked and went into the school, which has a safe room," Lance said. "There were kids and elderly people, dogs and cats, babies. It was like the whole town was there."

One person sustained minor injuries in Murray County, where the tornado moved slowly through a rural area on its path that would take it south of Roff, said Gary Ligon, Murray County's emergency management director.

Ligon said the injured person was taken to a hospital but the nature of the injury was not immediately known.

The Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma, warned that twisters as far north as Nebraska and Iowa could develop late Monday night.

The bad weather should settle in the Ohio and Tennessee valleys on Tuesday, forecasters said, while another storm system should bring bad weather to the area from north Texas to near St. Louis on Wednesday.

Monday's series of violent thunderstorms dropped tornadoes near Oklahoma City and in the rolling hills south of the city, destroying some homes and barns. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol closed Interstate 35 near Wynnewood for 15 minutes Monday so the storm could pass, temporarily shutting down the primary route between Oklahoma City and Dallas.

Muslim student misidentified as 'Isis Phillips' in yearbook

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, Calif. (AP)—A Muslim high school student said Monday she's hurt after being mistakenly identified in her Southern California yearbook as "Isis Phillips."

Bayan Zehlif, a 17-year-old high school senior, said at a news conference with Muslim community advocates that she found it "coincidental" that she was mistaken for a girl whose name is widely associated with a terror group. She was hurt by the error, but even more so after her Los Osos High School classmates blasted her for denouncing it, she said.

"Seeing the yearbook really hurt, but seeing my classmates go against me like that hurt even more," she told reporters at the offices of the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Anaheim, Calif.

Zehlif

Mat Holton, Chaffey Joint Union High School District superintendent, said in a statement that Zehlif was misidentified as another student with the first name of Isis.

The other student, who no longer attends the school, also was misidentified in the yearbook on a facing page, Holton said.

He said an investigation is being conducted.

"The families of both students were immediately contacted and offered a sincere apology," and another apology was offered at a second meeting Monday with Holton and the school principal, he said.

Yearbook distribution has been halted until the error is fixed, and those who already received them have been asked to return them.

"The remaining yearbooks will be corrected before the end of the week and distributed to students," he said.

Zehlif said she didn't personally know Isis Phillips, but she has heard a girl with that name had attended the school in Rancho Cucamonga. The mix-up occurred on a candid photo, and her class photo lists her name correctly, she said.

Zehlif posted a photo on Facebook of herself in a hijab with the name "Isis Phillips" underneath it as it appears in the yearbook.

Zehlif is not returning to school for now out of fear of a backlash from some of her classmates, but hopes to attend graduation next week as her relatives from Jordan have traveled for the ceremony, she said.

ACROSS THE NATION

California Assembly passes gender-neutral restrooms bill

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California lawmakers advanced a proposal Monday that would require all single-stall public restrooms to be gender neutral. The vote came hours after North Carolina's governor sued the federal government to defend a law in that state requiring transgender people to use the restroom matching the sex on their birth certificate. Members of the California Assembly voted 52-18 on an initial ballot in favor of the proposal from Democratic Assemblyman Phil Ting of San Francisco. He said it aims to help transgender people, parents with kids of different genders and adults caring for aging parents.

Wyoming judge facing ouster over stance on same-sex marriage

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP)—Some current and former Wyoming lawmakers as well as national religious groups are supporting a municipal judge who faces a dismissal petition before the Wyoming Supreme Court for saying she would not preside over same-sex marriages. The Wyoming Commission on Judicial Conduct and Ethics is recommending the court remove Municipal Judge and Circuit Court Magistrate Ruth Neely of Pinedale. The commission started investigating Neely after she told a reporter in 2014 she would not perform same-sex marriages because of her religious beliefs. Attempts to reach Neely and her attorneys, including the Alliance Defending Freedom, an Arizona religious advocacy law firm, were not successful Monday. Neely is fighting removal, arguing she has a constitutional right to voice her opinion. Her lawyers have said no same-sex couples have asked her to preside over their weddings.

California looks at easing drought cuts after wet winter

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—California will consider lifting a mandatory statewide water conservation order for cities and towns after a rainy, snowy winter eased the state's five-year drought, water officials said Monday. But an executive order by Gov. Jerry Brown would make permanent some of the measures adopted to deal with the current drought, including prohibitions against excessive water use while washing cars and watering lawns. Members of the state Water Resources Control Board—czars of the state's drought emergency program—will decide May 18 whether to remove the 11-month-old statewide order for mandatory water use cuts. The conservation effort required at least 20 percent water conservation overall by most of the water districts serving California's nearly 40 million people.

Asia

Duterte seen as emancipator, looming dictator

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Rodrigo Duterte, the bombastic mayor of a major southern Philippine city, was poised Tuesday to become the nation's president-elect after an incendiary and populist campaign that projected him alternatively as an emancipator and a looming dictator.

Sen. Grace Poe, one of his biggest rivals, was the first to concede Duterte's victory in the early hours of Tuesday. And his harshest critic conceded that Duterete, known for his off-color sexual remarks and pledges to kill criminal suspects, emerged the unquestioned winner in Monday's election.

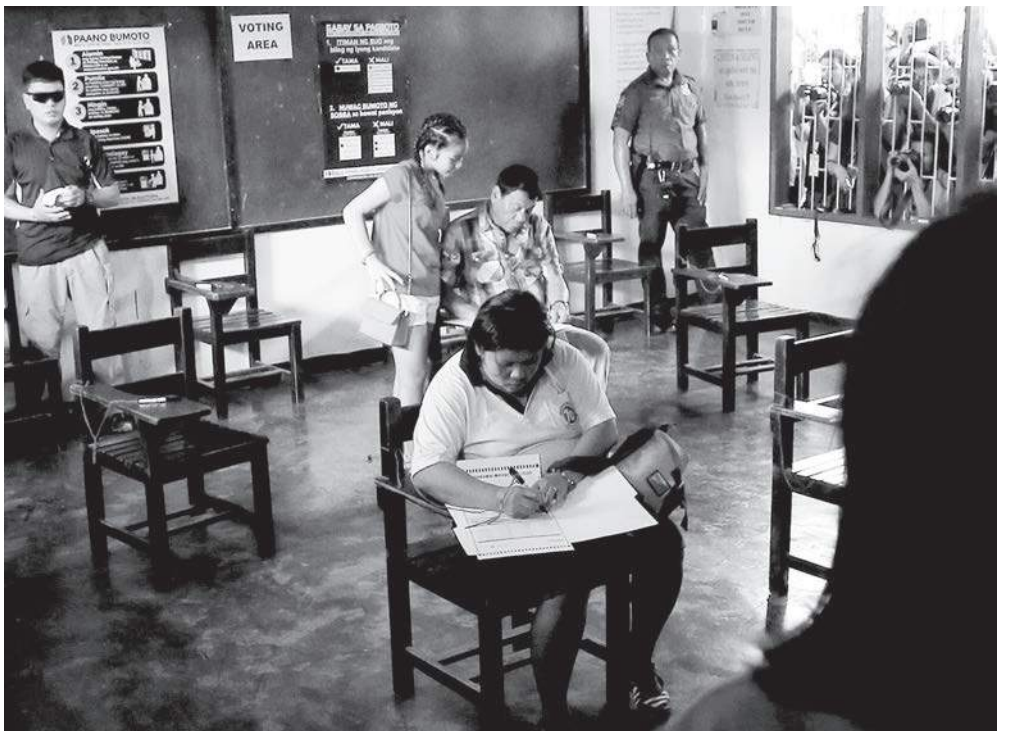
"I will not be the party pooper at this time of a festive mood," Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, who has filed a plunder complaint against Duterte, told The Associated Press. "I will step back, listen to his policy pronouncements. This time we don't expect a stand-up comedy act but a president who will address the nation."

Duterte, 71, himself has not spoken since casting his vote Monday, and remained at his home in Davao, on the southern main island of Mindanao.

Results from a semi-official count gave Duterte an unassailable lead, thrusting him into national politics for the first time after 22 years as mayor of Davao and a government prosecutor before that. In those two jobs, Duterte gained notoriety by going after criminals, although he was accused of carrying out hundreds of extra-judicial killings.

This earned him the nickname "Duterte Harry," a reference to the Clint Eastwood movie character with little regard for rules. He has also been compared to Donald Trump, the U.S. Republican presumptive presidential nominee for his propensity for inflammable statements.

In the election for vice president, who is separately elected in the Philippines, the son of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos was trailing by a hair to a political neophyte, Rep. Leni Robredo, who is backed by outgoing President Benigno Aquino III.



AP

Front-running presidential candidate Mayor Rodrigo Duterte gets help from his daughter Veronica as he votes in a polling precinct at Daniel R. Aguinaldo National High School at Matina district, his hometown in Davao city in southern Philippines Monday, May 9, 2016.

During the three-month campaign, Duterte made audacious promises to eradicate crime and corruption within six months. His explosive outbursts and curses against the inequality and social ills that bedevil the Filipino everyman resonated among different class levels of the people that his big political rivals clearly underestimated until he began to take a strong lead in opinion polls in the final weeks of the campaign.

He captured domestic and international attention with speeches peppered with obscene jokes about sex and rape and anecdotes about his Visagra-fueled sexual escapades, and for undiplomatic remarks about Australia, the United States and China, all key players in the country's politics.

He has not articulated an overall foreign policy, but has described himself as a socialist wary of the U.S.-Philippine security alliance. He has worried members of the armed forces by saying that communist rebels could play a role in his government.

When the Australian and American ambassadors criticized a joke he made about wanting to be the first to have raped an Australian missionary who was gang-raped and killed by inmates in a 1989 jail riot, he told them to shut up.

He said he would talk with China about territorial disputes in the South China Sea but if nothing happened, he would sail to an artificial island newly created by China and plant the Philippine flag there. China, he said, could shoot him and turn him into a national hero.

He has also threatened to form a one-man rule if legislators in the Congress oppose him.

Aquino, the president, went public against Duterte late in the campaign saying the mayor may endanger the country's hard-fought democracy and squander economic gains of the last six years, when the Philippine economy grew at an average of 6.2 percent, one of the best rates in Asia.

Mass rally in North Korea after congress bolsters leader

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—Hundreds of thousands of North Koreans celebrated the country's newly completed ruling-party congress Tuesday with a massive civilian parade featuring floats bearing patriotic slogans and marchers with flags and pompoms.

Leader Kim Jong Un presided over the parade and waved to the crowd. The four-day congress completed Monday was the authoritarian country's first since 1980, before Kim was even born. The rubberstamp body of more than 3,400 delegates endorsed his nuclear and economic policies, promoted his favored officials and gave him a new title of party chairman.

By calling a congress—something his father, Kim Jong Il, never did—Kim demonstrated what may be a leadership style more like that of his charismatic grandfather, national founder Kim Il Sung. Kim Il Sung worked through party organs more than Kim Jong Il, who preferred using his own network of trusted individuals to get things done.

The congress touted Kim's successes on the nuclear front and promised economic improvements to boost the nation's standard of living, despite the increasing weight of international sanctions over the North's development of nuclear weapons.

Mostly, however, the congress put Kim front and center in the eyes of the people and the party as the country's sole leader.

His new title of chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea was announced during the roughly 10 minutes that a small group of foreign media, including The Associated Press, was allowed to watch the congress Monday in the ornate April 25 House of Culture. It was the only time any of the more than 100 foreign journalists invited were allowed to view the proceedings.

As a military band in full uniform played the welcoming song used whenever North Korea's leader enters a public place, Kim confidently strode onto the stage, generating a long, loud standing ovation from the several thousand delegates attending.

In unison the delegates shouted, "Mansae! Mansae!" wishing Kim long life.

China announces measures to boost sagging exports

BEIJING (AP)—China's Cabinet has approved measures to boost exports in a move that might inflame tensions with Western trading partners that accuse Beijing of flooding their markets with steel and other goods at improperly low prices.

The announcement late Monday comes as Beijing struggles to reduce a glut of goods in an array of industries and reverse an export decline that threatens to cause politically dangerous job losses. Its efforts so far have prompted complaints by European and U.S. steelmakers and others that it is violating free-trading pledges.

In its latest measures, the Cabinet promised more bank lending, an increase in tax rebates and support for export credit.

Chinese exports contracted by 1.8 percent last month compared with the same period last year and are down 7.6 percent so far this year.

"The foreign trade situation is complicated and grim," said the Cabinet statement. "Promoting foreign trade to return to stability is important for economic stability and upgrading."

Beijing is trying to shrink bloated companies, many of them state-owned, in industries including steel, coal, glass, cement and aluminum in which supply exceeds demand. That has led to price-cutting wars and heavy losses.

Monday's announcement follows a Cabinet announcement last month promising to boost steel exports with bank loans and other support.

In March, Washington responded to a flood of low-cost steel from China by announced anti-dumping tariffs of up to 266 percent on some Chinese steelmakers.

Britain's government faces pressure to act after Tata Steel cited low-cost Chinese competition when it announced plans in April to sell money-losing operations there that employ 20,000 people.

Elsewhere in Europe, steelworkers have protested in Brussels outside the European Union headquarters.

Also in April, China pushed back against its trading partners, announcing anti-dumping duties on steel from the European Union, Japan and South Korea.

Monday's announcement also said Beijing will support companies in setting up foreign distribution centers and other sales infrastructure and shifting some operations abroad.

As part of the campaign to reduce overcapacity, China's minister of human resources announced plans in February to eliminate 1.8 million jobs in coal and steel. Beijing announced a 100 billion yuan ($15 billion) fund to help laid-off workers find jobs.

Plans for other industries have yet to be announced.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ex-N. Korea army head, who Seoul said was executed, is alive

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Pyongyang's state media says a former North Korean military chief who South Korea had said was executed is actually alive and in possession of several new senior-level jobs. The news Tuesday on Ri Yong Gil marks yet another blunder for South Korean intelligence officials, who have often gotten information wrong in tracking developments with their rival. It also points to the difficulties that even professional spies have in figuring out what's going on in one of the world's most closed governments. Ri, who was considered one of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's most trusted aides, missed two key national meetings in February. Seoul intelligence officials later said that Kim had him executed for corruption and other charges.

Cambodia police detain 8 at peaceful protest against arrests

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Police in Cambodia detained eight activists, including two Westerners, who wore black clothing in a peaceful protest Monday in support of human rights workers who were jailed last week, a rights advocacy group said. They were released after being held for several hours. Om Sam Ath of the group Licadho said the eight were among as many as 200 people taking part in a "Black Monday" campaign to show their solidarity with one former and four current officers of another human rights group, ADHOC. He said the two Westerners were a German and a Swede who worked as advisers to Licadho. The detainees were released without immediately facing charges. National Police spokesman Gen. Kirt Chantharith said the six Cambodians were detained because they sought to incite disorder, but were released after they agreed to sign letters recognizing their mistake.

World

Syria government extends cease-fire in Aleppo

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—A fragile and limited cease-fire in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo and its surrounding countryside has been extended for the third time, for another 48 hours starting at 1 a.m. Tuesday morning, the Syrian military said Monday.

The extension came a couple of hours before an earlier cease-fire was set to expire at 12:01 Tuesday morning. It is not clear why the one-hour gap was planned between the new cease-fire and the expiring one.

Just hours before the government announced the cease-fire, the United Sates said that a new agreement with Russia would replace localized, piecemeal cease-fires in Syria with a revived, nationwide truce. It was not clear if other announcements regarding cease-fires in the rest of the country would follow.

A joint U.S.-Russia statement made no explicit reference to ending the practice of pursuing partial truces.

The extremist groups the Nusra Front, Al-Qaida's branch in Syria, and its more powerful rival the Islamic State group, are not included in the cease-fire agreement. An intricate landscape where government troops, extremist groups, and Western-backed rebels operate, often side by side, has made an earlier cease-fire reached in late February difficult to sustain and monitor.

But also, elusive political talks have also hardened positions, endangering the cease-fire. World leaders are struggling to get faltering peace talks back on track.

Aleppo has seen the worst violence since an earlier cease-fire reached in late February collapsed. Nearly 300 civilians were killed in several days.

Syria's military said the new cease-fire would expire at midnight Wednesday.

There were limited breaches of the most recent five-day cease-fire from both sides.

Multiple air raids Monday struck rebel-held areas while shelling hit government-controlled parts of the northern city of Aleppo, two opposition monitoring groups and Syrian state media reported.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Local Coordination Committee said the airstrikes hit several areas in Aleppo, including the neighborhood of Rashideen. Monday's airstrikes came a day after opposition fighters shelled the government-held neighborhood of Midan, killing a child, state media and activists said.

Opposition activists also reported air raids and shelling on the town of Khan Touman, just south of Aleppo, which was captured Friday by a coalition of insurgent groups including the Nusra Front. The battle left at least 13 members of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards force dead as well as troops and pro-government gunmen.

The town was captured by a coalition known as Jaish al-Fatah, or Army of Conquest, an ultraconservative group led by the Nusra Front, and the jihadi militias Jund al-Aqsa and Ahrar al-Sham.

AP

In this Sunday, April 24, 2016, file photo made from video posted online by the Syrian Civil Defense White Helmets, people stand in rubble after airstrikes and shelling hit Aleppo, Syria.

Under reform mantle, Shiite cleric fractures Iraqi politics

BAGHDAD (AP)—After more than a decade of dipping in and out of Iraqi politics, Muqtada al-Sadr, the young Shiite cleric who first made his name fighting U.S. forces in post-2003 Iraq, is leveraging his enduring popular appeal to again roil Iraq's political order.

On April 30, when his supporters invaded the highly fortified Green Zone in the Iraqi capital and overran the parliament building to demand political reforms, it marked a dramatic escalation of a long-simmering standoff between Iraq's powerful political blocs.

While al-Sadr's most recent show of force has been playing out in central Baghdad, the core of support that fuels his power lies on the city's northeastern edge. In Sadr City—the Shiite dominated neighborhood renamed after the cleric's family in 2003—al-Sadr's support doesn't stem from how he's played his political hand but from his lineage.

Born to a prominent Iraqi family, al-Sadr's uncle Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Baqir al-Sadr was executed by Saddam Hussein in 1980. In 1999, al-Sadr's father Mohammed Sadiq al-Sadr was shot dead along with two of his sons in Najaf.

On the streets of Sadr City, images of al-Sadr, his father, and uncle are ubiquitous behind tangles of electrical wires along densely packed roads.

Abdul-Khaliq Hussein Akhlati's sitting room is lined with larger-than-life portraits of al-Sadr and his father.

"Honestly, I can't explain my love for him, I can't describe it," Akhlati said, gesturing to the pictures on his wall. "For us the most important thing is that he fought Saddam and then he fought the Americans and now he's fighting all the corrupt (politicians)."

However Akhlati admitted that life for him and his family hasn't improved since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that overthrew Saddam. Conditions in Sadr City have largely deteriorated, government electricity is only provided a few hours a day, most of Akhlati's sons are out of work and the prices of food have steadily risen. But he doesn't blame al-Sadr, saying it's the fault of the corrupt Green Zone lawmakers that al-Sadr opposes.

"That is just the fault of the thieves," Akhlati said.

From 2003 to 2011 al-Sadr's Mahdi Army fought multiple battles with U.S. forces—on the streets of Sadr City and most notably in August 2004, when they waged a protracted battle with American troops in Najaf. In 2011, when U.S. forces withdrew from Iraq, al-Sadr technically disbanded the militia.

Effort to impeach Brazil's president thrown into chaos

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—The impeachment process against Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff was thrown into chaos Monday as the acting speaker of the lower Chamber of Deputies annulled a majority vote by his own colleagues that favored ousting the embattled leader.

The surprise move by acting Speaker Waldir Maranhao touched off a firestorm of debate over the move's legality and its possible implications, a standoff that will likely have to be solved by the country's supreme court.

The Senate had been expected to decide Wednesday whether to accept the impeachment case against Rousseff and put her on trial for allegedly breaking fiscal rules in her management of the national budget. If a simple majority of senators decides in favor, Rousseff will be suspended and Vice President Michel Temer will take over until a trial is conducted.

Senate Head Renan Calheiros told colleagues he intended to ignore Maranhao's decision and move forward with the proceedings as scheduled. He slammed the speaker's action as "toying with democracy."

Whether the Senate would be able to go forward was unclear, since both the government and opposition were likely to appeal Maranhao's decision. At the very least, the impeachment process could be pushed back a few days.

Under the terms of Maranhao's decision, the lower Chamber of Deputies would have five sessions to hold another vote on whether to send the impeachment process against Rousseff to the Senate.

The lower house overwhelmingly voted to move forward with the process last month and it is those April 15-17 sessions that were annulled by Maranhao, who opposed impeachment.

Speaking late Monday, Maranhao said the vote was riddled with irregularities, and included a violation of rules, such as party leaders telling members how to vote.

"We are not, nor will we ever be, joking around with how we make democracy," he said.

Rousseff is battling impeachment over allegations that her government violated fiscal rules, in what critics say was a bid to artificially bolster the country's flagging economy. Rousseff has said that prior presidents used such fiscal maneuvers and that the impeachment effort amounts to a "coup" aimed at removing her and her left-leaning Workers' Party, which has governed the country for 13 years.

Rousseff reacted cautiously to Maranhao's announcement, suggesting it wasn't entirely clear what was happening.

Alberta officials say oil sands city saved from fire's worst

FORT MCMURRAY, Alberta (AP)—Alberta premier's declared Canada's oil sands city saved and said a plan will be put together within two weeks so 88,000 residents forced to evacuate can return to their homes.

At least two neighborhoods in Fort McMurray were scenes of utter devastation with incinerated homes leveled to the ground from a wildfire that the city's fire chief called a "beast ... a fire like I've never seen in my life."

But the wider picture was more optimistic as Fire Chief Darby Allen said 85 percent of the city remains intact, including the downtown district.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley said about 2,400 homes and buildings were destroyed, but firefighters managed to save 25,000 others, including the hospital, municipal buildings and every functioning school.

"This city was surrounded by an ocean of fire only a few days ago but Fort McMurray and the surrounding communities have been saved and they will be rebuilt," Notley said.

Notley said there will be a meeting Tuesday with the energy industry to discuss the state of their facilities and the impact on operations. She got her first direct look at the devastation on Monday after cold temperatures and light rain had stabilized the massive wildfire to a point where officials could begin planning to get thousands of evacuated residents back.

The break in the weather left officials optimistic they've reached a turning point on getting a handle on the massive wildfire. The temperature dipped to 45 degrees Fahrenheit (7 degrees Celsius) on Monday following a week where the region had unseasonably warm temperatures.

Notley flew in Monday to meet with local officials and took a ground tour of the town before holding a news conference at the emergency center.

"I was very much struck by the devastation of the fire. It was really quite overwhelming in some spots," Notley said. "But I will also say that I was struck by the proximity of that devastation to neighborhoods that were untouched."

More than 40 journalists were allowed into Fort McMurray on a bus escorted by police. The forest surrounding the road into town was still smoldering and there were abandoned cars. Only the sign remained at a Super 8 Motel and Denny's restaurant on the edge of town.

The Beacon Hill neighborhood was a scene of utter devastation, with homes burned to their foundations.

Good Housekeeping

Diggin' In: Look beyond azalea shrubs, consider mountain laurel

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

If you are looking for a spring-flowering shrub beyond the typical azaleas, consider native mountain laurel.

"Mountain laurel is a beautiful native flowering shrub well used as an ornamental or shrub border," says Helen Hamilton, past president of the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society, and retired biology teacher living in Williamsburg, Va. Learn more about the native plant society at www.vnps.org.

Small and multi-stemmed, mountain laurel grows six to eight feet tall and wide, with evergreen, glossy leaves that change from light green to dark to purple throughout the year. The plant provides beneficial hiding places for wildlife during winter, Hamilton continues.

Mountain laurel. TNS

Mountain laurel, scientifically called Kalmia latifolia, blooms April through June, producing star-shaped buds in rounded clusters, followed by white to pink flowers. The center of each flower features a red ring around the white style with green stigma; this is the female part of the flower that does not mature until the pollen disperses, continues Hamilton. The male part is dark anthers on 10 arched filaments that are tucked into pouches on the flower.

"When a large bee or other visitor lands in the flower, seeking the nectar deep in the center, the filaments are bent under the weight of the insect, and the anthers are jarred loose, dumping pollen on the insect's body," says Hamilton. That insect then deposits the pollen on other flowers as it feeds. If the stigma is receptive, the flower is ready to produce seed.

"It's easy to tell if a flower has been pollinated — just look for the discharged stamens."

Mountain laurel is a member of the Heath family, and loves acidic soils, well-drained soils and part shade – similar to azaleas and rhododendrons. The shrub prefers morning shade, and greatly dislikes excessive sun as well as deep shade.

"With the right growing conditions, mountain laurel is a slow-growing low-maintenance plant that tolerates drought," says Hamilton.

"The plant furnishes nectar for bees and butterflies in the spring and fruit and seeds for birds and other wildlife in the fall. Many cultivars are available in the nursery trade with intense bud and flower colors, and dwarf sizes."

Mountain laurel grows in every county in Virginia, and ranges throughout the eastern United States and Canada. Huge patches of the plant form in the Appalachian Mountains on high, rocky hillsides.

Mountain Laurel is host plant for the caterpillars of the laurel sphinx moth. Deer usually leave the plant alone, according to Hamilton.

MEET MOURNING CLOAK

Mourning cloak, or Nymphalis antiopa, is often the first butterfly seen in early spring as it emerges from winter hibernation in tree holes or under loose bark, according to Hamilton. It has an inch-long body and two- to four-inch dark wings that are fringed with a rough scalloped edge in creamy white.

"Nothing else looks like this big butterfly," she says.

The name "mourning cloak" may come from the purple-black coloring of the wings. When at rest or in hibernation the wings are folded together and predators can see only the drab blackish brown underside.

The butterflies feed on rotting fruit, flower nectar and tree sap, especially oak trees. Walking upside down the tree, they drink from holes created by woodpeckers or from wounds in the bark, Hamilton explains.

Mating occurs early in spring. Females lay 30 to 50 eggs, encircling twigs of a host tree or shrub, preferring willows, hackberry, cottonwood, paper birch, and American elm. Adults emerge in early summer, June or July, occasionally feeding on flower nectar. They thrive anywhere in North America and central Mexico where there are host plants, including woods, parks and suburbs.

During summer heat, the butterflies become inactive, and are seen again in early fall to feed and store fat for winter.

As eggs, caterpillars and adults, the butterflies are food for many other creatures, according to Hamilton.

"Even so, adults can live almost a year, making them the longest-lived butterflies," she says.

Mourning cloak. TNS

Living Smart: Is it OK to install a roof in the rain?

By CYNTHIA WILSON
ANGIE'S LIST

Dear Angie: Is it OK to install a new roof while it's raining? I'm having a new roof installed over 20-year old (Oriented Strand Board) sheathing. It started raining during the install. Good news is that they did a section at a time, so the OSB was exposed to fairly light rain/drizzle for about a half hour before peel and stick membrane was installed. Is that a problem?

Dear Sailor: A reputable contractor keeps tabs on the weather and won't begin installing a roof if it's raining or expected to rain. Doing so puts workers at risk of falling off a wet roof and unnecessarily exposes your home to damage for which they may be held liable.

The OSB treatment

That doesn't mean that an unexpected rain or drizzle, as you indicated, won't occur during the roof replacement. If it starts to rain or drizzle, the roofers should act quickly to cover your OSB — most likely with a tarp.

One of the roofing pros we spoke with says mist won't affect OSB any more than the humidity that OSB absorbs on a hot day. OSB isn't extremely sensitive to small amounts of water because resin and wax is manufactured into the layered product. Also, the edges of the panels are treated with a sealant to resist moisture penetration.

Up on the roof — watch out for wet or wrinkled decks

That said, pros say a new roof should never be installed over wet wood or a wrinkled barrier. Doing so goes against the building codes in most communities and the shingles won't adhere.

When a roof deck is exposed to water and absorbs enough to swell, it should be allowed to dry out before any roofing material is applied to avoid trapping moisture under the roof material that could cause the edges to swell or buckle.

If your contractor discovers damaged decking while installing your roof, it should be sanded or replaced before the new roof is applied. They should also make sure to properly vent the roof.

Check before you hire a roofing contractor

Because many states don't require roofing contractors to be licensed, experts recommend checking your local building codes or meeting with a building inspector before hiring a roofing contractor. Read reviews on Angie's List to find an experienced roofer who does quality work and carries liability insurance. Before you hire anyone, ask what precautions the roofer will take if it starts to rain when they are installing the roof and come to an agreement before the job begins.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ONE

Easy Deviled Eggs

Deviled eggs are a great appetizer, and this recipe is particularly easy!

12 large eggs
1/2 cup light mayonnaise
1/8 teaspoon ground red cayenne pepper
Salt
1/4 cup very finely chopped red pepper
1/4 cup very finely chopped carrot
2 tablespoons very finely chopped cornichons or dill pickles
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh dill leaves

1. Place eggs in 4-quart saucepan. Add enough cold water to cover eggs by 2 inches. Heat to boiling on high, cover with lid, and remove from heat. Let stand 12 minutes. Drain and rinse under cold water. Under running water, peel off shells and discard.

2. Trim the tops and bottoms of eggs so that they can sit flat. Cut each egg in half crosswise. Transfer yolks to large bowl.

3. Into yolks, mash mayonnaise, cayenne, and 1/4 teaspoon salt until smooth. Stir in pepper, carrot, cornichons and dill until well-mixed.

4. Spoon rounded teaspoon of yolk mixture into each egg-white half. Place on serving platter; garnish with dill. Eggs can be made up to 1 day ahead, then covered and refrigerated.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

Life & Style

US actress, an ex-refugee, sets out to help Syrian migrants

By WILLIAM J. KOLE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milana Vayntrub plays giddy and goofy roles, but she was fidgety and troubled as she tried to relax on a recent vacation in Greece.

The actress best known for her role as the chirpy, blue-shirted "Lily" in a popular series of AT&T commercials was a toddler when her parents fled Uzbekistan as refugees in 1989. How was she supposed to just sit on the beach, she wondered, when migrants fleeing Syria were coming ashore a few miles away?

"It felt a little ridiculous that I could do something but would choose not to," she said.

Vayntrub, 29, deliberately missed her flight home so she could wrap refugee babies in blankets and make sandwiches for the new arrivals. Later, back in Los Angeles, she founded CantDoNothing.org, a nonprofit with a simple mission: Encourage people around the planet to do something—anything—to help.

"I'm asking everyone to find simple ways to share your time, your money, your voice to make a difference. Helping can be a lot of things," Vayntrub told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

Her initiative, shared under the hashtag #CantDoNothing, has unleashed a buzz on social media, with people from around the planet sharing photos and videos of their acts of kindness and solidarity.

It's also highlighted Vayntrub's own harrowing journey from oppression to opportunity nearly three decades ago, and her emergence as a sort of accidental activist.

Although she's most recognizable for her advertising work as a quirky AT&T salesperson, she's gained a following for comedy films including "Junk" and "L!fe Happens," as well as Netflix's "Love," HBO's "Silicon Valley," Yahoo's "Other Space," and her YouTube channel, "LivePrudeGirls."

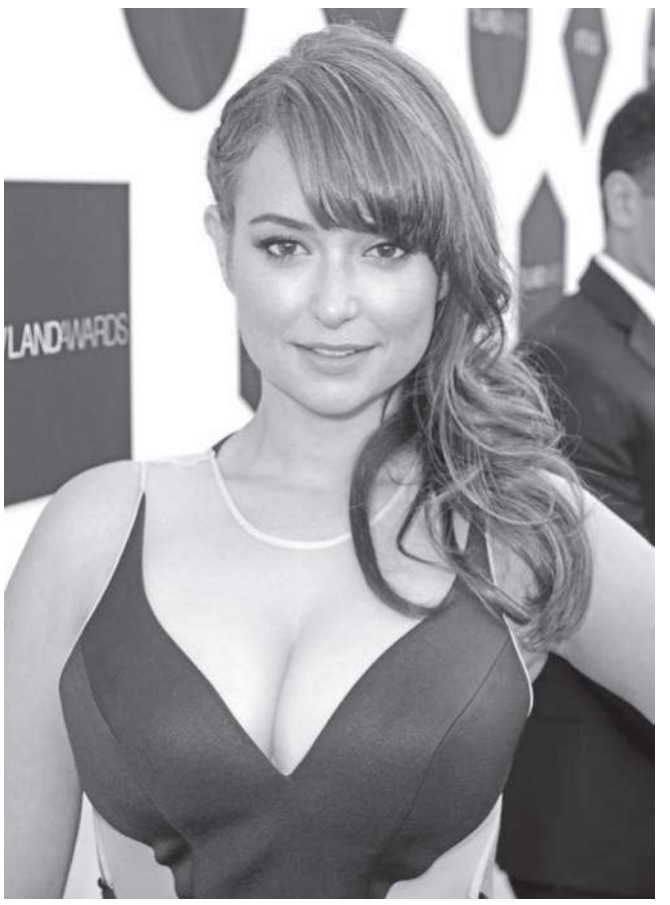
She's had to adapt her stand-up routine, though, since returning from Greece.

"All my life kvetches sounded so petty," she said. "Here, what's going on with the refugees doesn't really pop up in my feed. It's not in my daily life. But when you travel, you see it."

Using her iPhone, Vayntrub made a short video about her vacation-turned-mission. It shows dozens of bright orange life jackets littering the beaches of the Greek island of Lesbos, where refugees from Syria continue to make the perilous sea crossing to reach Europe.

From a distance, the jackets "look like a field of poppies—a beautiful nature scene. Then you get closer and realize the humanity," she said. "That was the first real shock."

The video also shows Vayntrub greeting boats carrying refugees from Turkey as they come ashore. The U.N. refugee agency says more than 1 million people crossed the Mediterranean in 2015, most in unseaworthy boats, and nearly 200,000 have made the crossing so far this year.



AP
In this April 11, 2015 file photo, Milana Vayntrub arrives at the TV Land Awards at the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Vayntrub was only 2 when her parents left their home in the former Soviet Union, so she has no memories of her own flight to an eventual new life in southern California.

"But I do remember feeling like an outsider—that everyone's from here, and I'm not," she said.

Providing the refugees with food, shelter and medical attention is critical. But Vayntrub—who's planning to visit a Syrian refugee camp in Jordan next month—also worries about the lack of educational and cultural opportunities for young migrants.

"I'm haunted by who these kids will be in 20 years with no exposure to literature or musical instruments. What kind of adult does that breed?" she said.

Responses to the #CantDoNothing movement have been varied and spirited. A YMCA in Richmond, Virginia, collected new and used baby carriers to send overseas. A school in Santa Monica, California, held a stuffed animal drive. A poet in Ontario, Canada, wrote free verse about the refugees' plight.

Box Office Top 20: 'Civil War' on top despite slight drop

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Captain America: Civil War" is still the fifth biggest opener of all time despite a slight drop in grosses from initial Sunday estimates. According to Monday actuals the superhero spectacle brought in $179.1 million in its first weekend in theaters—slightly below Sunday's $181.8 million projection.

It's a massive success for the film, which cost $250 million to produce and has already earned over $673 million worldwide.

"Civil War" had the skies to itself as the only new film to open wide this past weekend, and effectively bumped "The Jungle Book" into second place after three weekends in first. In third place, Garry Marshall's "Mother's Day" saw a 33 percent bump from its first weekend in theaters, taking in $11.1 million with a little help from the actual holiday.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. **"Captain America: Civil War,"** Disney, $179,139,142, 4,226 locations, $42,390 average, $179,139,142, 1 week.
2. **"The Jungle Book,"** Disney, $24,488,436, 4,144 locations, $5,909 average, $287,600,701, 4 weeks.
3. **"Mother's Day,"** Open Road, $11,087,076, 3,141 locations, $3,530 average, $22,806,766, 2 weeks.
4. **"The Huntsman: Winter's War,"** Universal, $3,948,835, 2,901 locations, $1,361 average, $40,732,455, 3 weeks.
5. **"Keanu,"** Warner Bros., $3,287,484, 2,681 locations, $1,226 average, $15,308,421, 2 weeks.
6. **"Zootopia,"** Disney, $3,214,592, 2,077 locations, $1,548 average, $328,162,582, 10 weeks.
7. **"Barbershop: The Next Cut,"** Warner Bros., $2,803,268, 1,734 locations, $1,617 average, $48,872,111, 4 weeks.
8. **"The Boss,"** Universal, $1,913,425, 1,933 locations, $990 average, $59,265,885, 5 weeks.
9. **"Ratchet And Clank,"** Focus Features, $1,463,250, 2,895 locations, $505 average, $7,096,883, 2 weeks.
10. **"Batman v Superman: Dawn Of Justice,"** Warner Bros., $1,050,468, 1,593 locations, $659 average, $327,255,601, 7 weeks.
11. **"24 (Tamil & Telugu),"** Cinegalaxy, $981,455, 137 locations, $7,164 average, $1,145,404, 1 week.
12. **"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2,"** Universal, $645,745, 640 locations, $1,009 average, $58,288,410, 7 weeks.
13. **"Eye In The Sky,"** Bleecker Street, $561,028, 419 locations, $1,339 average, $17,300,175, 9 weeks.
14. **"A Hologram For The King,"** Roadside Attractions, $502,210, 400 locations, $1,256 average, $3,424,519, 3 weeks.
15. **"Sing Street,"** The Weinstein Company, $438,225, 153 locations, $2,864 average, $1,129,922, 4 weeks.
16. **"Hello, My Name Is Doris,"** Roadside Attractions, $342,126, 287 locations, $1,192 average, $13,347,131, 9 weeks.
17. **"Green Room,"** A24, $337,930, 470 locations, $719 average, $2,058,336, 4 weeks.
18. **"The Meddler,"** Sony Pictures Classics, $309,705, 53 locations, $5,843 average, $629,341, 3 weeks.
19. **"Criminal,"** Lionsgate, $299,238, 517 locations, $579 average, $14,268,533, 4 weeks.
20. **"Miracles From Heaven,"** Sony, $243,772, 301 locations, $810 average, $60,071,960, 8 weeks.

Marble Rodin sculpture fetches record price at NY auction

NEW YORK (AP)—A rare marble sculpture by Auguste Rodin sold for a record $20.4 million at Sotheby's sale of impressionist and modern art.

Rodin's "Eternal Springtime" was created out of a single block of marble in 1901-1903. It features a floral motif base of two lovers in a passionate embrace and is believed to be the fifth in a series of 10 known carvings of the subject that Rodin created in marble.

The previous auction record for any Rodin sculpture was "Iris, Messenger of the Gods," a bronze work owned by Sylvester Stallone that sold for $16.6 million in February.

Other highlights among the 62 works offered at the Monday evening sale included Paul Signac's "The Port Houses, Saint-Tropez." It sold for $10.7 million, well within its presale estimate of $8 to $12 million.

An important example of the pointillist style, the bright painting depicts the French coastal town of Saint-Tropez in 1882. It was the first time the neo-impressionist artist had visited the town, a place he returned to often.

The Saint-Tropez painting has been in the same family for nearly 60 years, purchased in 1958 by the parents of John Langeloth Loeb Jr., the former U.S. ambassador to Denmark.

The auction record for a Signac work is $14 million, achieved in 2007.

Sotheby's also offered two major works created during the short-lived Fauve period. Maurice de Vlaminck's 1905 landscape near Paris, "Underbrush," brought in $16.4 million.

The auction record for de Vlaminck is $22.5 million, set in 2011.

Another Fauve painting, Andre Derain's 1906 view of the River Thames, "Red Sails," went unsold. It was estimated to sell between $15 and $20 million.

Fauvism was characterized by its use of saturated colors and simplified forms as a way to express the artist's emotions. It lasted a short three years, and only four major Fauve paintings have come to auction since 2010.

The sale also featured an early portrait of Claude Monet's wife Camille. It sold for 49.4 million.

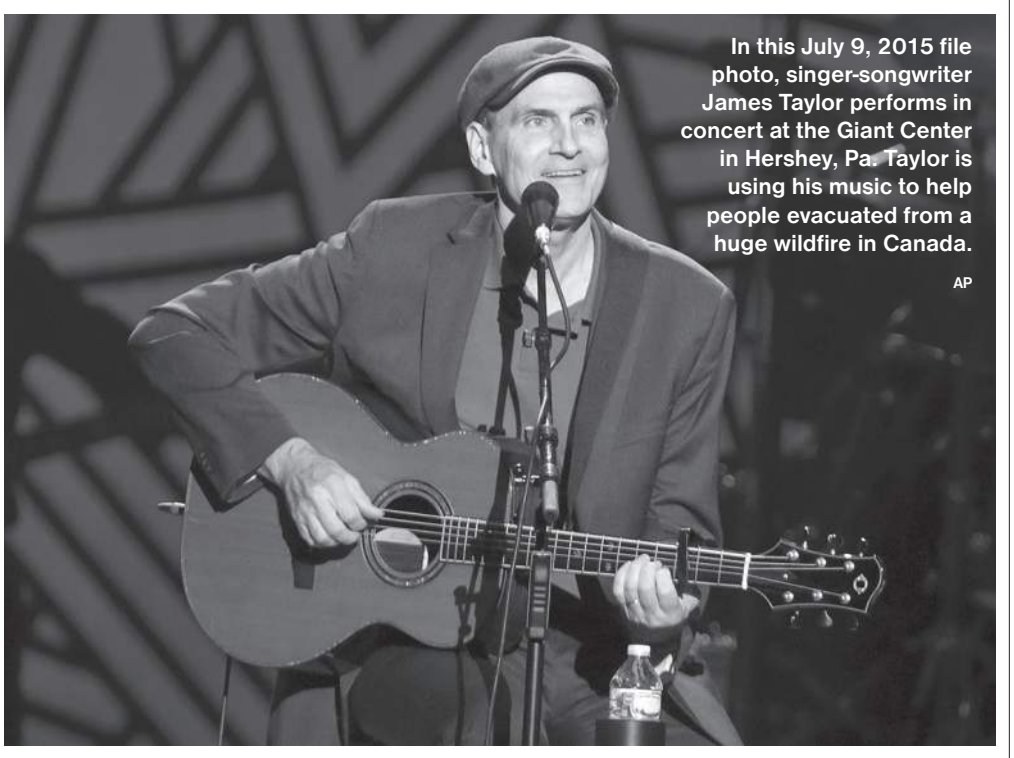
Works by Pablo Picasso, Joan Miro, and Edvard Munch also were up for bidding Monday night.

On Wednesday, Sotheby's will be offering contemporary works including a self-portrait by Andy Warhol and a blue canvas from Cy Twombly's "Blackboard" series.

AP
In this Friday, March 29, 2016 file photo, Rodin's "Eternal Springtime" is viewed during the spring auction preview at Sotheby's, in New York.

James Taylor to donate money to fire-ravaged Fort McMurray

By MESFIN FEKADU
AP MUSIC WRITER



In this July 9, 2015 file photo, singer-songwriter James Taylor performs in concert at the Giant Center in Hershey, Pa. Taylor is using his music to help people evacuated from a huge wildfire in Canada.

AP

James Taylor is using his music to help people evacuated from a huge wildfire in Canada.

The "Carolina in My Mind" singer has turned two Alberta concerts next month into benefits. Proceeds from tickets to his shows in Calgary on June 7 and Edmonton on June 8 will be donated to the Canadian Red Cross to help victims of what Taylor says is a major national catastrophe that's just impossible to ignore.

"It's really a part of human nature to respond to things like this by wanting to lend a hand if you can. You'd like to feel as though people would be there for you if you were in a similar situation," Taylor told The Associated Press by phone on Monday.

Taylor says the idea came from conversations with his Canadian manager Sam Feldman as he arrived for a 15-concert tour of Canadian cities over the next month. He said the two shows would raise "at least a quarter of a million, maybe a $100,000 more than that."

"Live Nation are donating their portion of the show ... the two buildings that the shows are in are donating their part to it," Taylor added. "It's building some momentum and we hope it encourages other people to volunteer."

More than 80,000 residents of Fort McMurray have been displaced by the fires, which began last week. Taylor has frequently participated in fundraising events.

France restores Nazi-stolen Degas drawing to rightful owners

French Culture Minister Audrey Azoulay, left, and Viviane Dreyfus daughter of the late Maurice Dreyfus pose next to the late 19th century drawing "Trois danseuses en buste" by Edgar Degas, as she listens to the speech of French Culture Minister Audrey Azoulay in Paris, France, Monday, May 9, 2016.

AP

PARIS (AP)—France has restored to its rightful owners a drawing by Edgar Degas that was stolen by the Nazis from its Jewish owner in 1940.

In a moving ceremony in Paris on Monday, Culture Minister Audrey Azoulay said that "Trois danseuses en buste"—a late 19th-century charcoal sketch of three ballerinas—was found in 1951 in a cupboard in the Occupation-era German Embassy. It had since remained unclaimed in the Louvre.

Viviane Dreyfus accepted the drawing for her father, Maurice, who died in 1957 without ever speaking of the lost work.

She said she was "extremely touched," especially because she didn't know the work existed.

There are 2,000 unclaimed works sitting in French museums, of which at least 145 were stolen by the Nazis.

Ann Coulter writes book in praise of Donald Trump

NEW YORK (AP)—Ann Coulter's next book will be a story of praise—for Donald Trump.

Sentinel, a conservative imprint of Penguin Random House, announced Monday that Coulter's "In Trump We Trust: The New American Revolution" will be published Aug. 23. According to Sentinel, Coulter will call on "conservatives, moderates, and even disgruntled Democrats" to unite behind the presumptive Republican nominee, whom Coulter has supported for months.

Coulter shares with Trump a long history of inflammatory comments. She says in a statement that he is a "one-man wrecking ball against our dysfunctional and corrupt establishment."

Her other books include "Mugged: Racial Demagoguery from the Seventies to Obama" and "Treason: Liberal Treachery From the Cold War to the War on Terror."

Actor optimistic about possible extradition of 'El Chapo'

AP

In this Aug. 24, 2015, file photo, Mexicam actress Kate del Castillo poses for portraits at an event promoting the film "The 33" in Mexico City.

MEXICO CITY (AP)—For the actor holding the rights to make a movie about Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the latest step toward his eventual extradition to the U.S. is a welcome turn.

"Today's news that El Chapo may be extradited to the United States is good news in that it will allow my team greater access to him in order to tell a full and accurate picture of his unbelievable life and work," Kate del Castillo said through her publicist Monday.

Her comment came after Mexican judicial authorities said a judge ruled that legal requirements had been met for sending Guzman to the U.S. to face drug charges. The country's Foreign Relations Department must still approve extradition, and Guzman's lawyers can appeal.

Del Castillo arranged actor Sean Penn's interview with Guzman in October while the leader of the Sinaloa cartel was on the lam after his second escape from prison. Del Castillo has said she was able to do so because of a relationship that developed around Guzman's interest in having a film made about his life.

Mexican authorities have said they are investigating whether Del Castillo received any money from Guzman. She denies that happened.

Del Castillo's optimism that Guzman would be more accessible in the U.S. after extradition could be misplaced.

"I think that her statement is wishful thinking," said David S. Weinstein, a former prosecutor who oversaw the narcotics division at the U.S. attorney's office in Miami.

"She will have little to no access to him prior to his trial or the resolution of all the cases for which he is extradited to the U.S. to stand trial," Weinstein said.

After a conviction, Del Castillo would have to request an interview through the Bureau of Prisons.

Cruz campaign sued over use of music in videos

SEATTLE (AP)—Sen. Ted Cruz's now-defunct presidential campaign is being sued over the background music it used in two videos.

Audiosocket, a music licensing company based in Seattle and New Orleans, filed the lawsuit Monday in U.S. District Court in Seattle against Cruz for President and the advertising firm Madison McQueen. It says an agreement between Audiosocket and Madison McQueen expressly barred the use of the songs for political purposes.

The lawsuit seeks hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages. Neither the Cruz campaign nor Madison McQueen immediately returned emails seeking comment.

The songs at issue were used in campaign videos titled "Victories" and "Best to Come."

The Texas senator dropped out of the presidential campaign last week after losing the GOP primary in Indiana to Donald Trump.

Woman's lack of experience makes her reluctant to commit

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship with my high school sweetheart for six years. He is only the second person I have been intimate with. I love him and am pretty sure that we will end up marrying. Neither of us has ever cheated.

The problem is that I'm having doubts about my lack of experience with other men. I'm not saying I want to sleep around with random men, but I would like to experience intimacy with someone else so I won't wonder "what if" when I am older and married. Am I wrong for this?

CONFUSED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CONFUSED: I don't think you are "wrong," but your question does make me wonder whether you are ready to settle down. If your sex life were as fulfilling as you would like it to be, you wouldn't be asking if you are wrong for wanting more. Level with your boyfriend about your feelings to see if you can work this out. However, if the answer is no, then both of you may want to move on.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: We are friends with a couple who married five months ago. My husband, "Ian," was one of the groomsmen, so we were deeply involved with wedding details a long time prior to the wedding. Ian and the groom, "Claude," are now on the same team at work.

Since the wedding, Claude spends a lot of time talking about his wife to anyone within earshot and on social media to the point of excess. (The bride is "perfect, beautiful, lovely" and he's "so lucky to be married to her," etc.) Everyone on the team works overtime every night because Claude posts love notes to his wife all day. The team supervisor talked to my husband about it, and asked him to cover Claude's workload because of his pre-wedding and now post-wedding bliss.

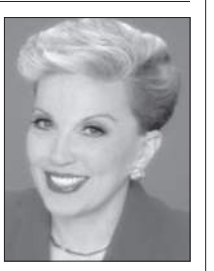
I have filtered the guy's posts and stopped reading, but Ian feels stuck in the middle at the office. He needs Claude to get his head back in the game and work. How can my husband gently communicate that this is affecting Claude's job performance and driving everyone batty? Ian is afraid that if he complains to the supervisor, his friend will feel betrayed.

OVERLOADED IN ALABAMA

DEAR OVERLOADED: The matter should be brought to the attention of their supervisor so the supervisor can handle it before it becomes a morale problem. What's going on is unprofessional and unfair to the other team members.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

The supervisor should tell Ian's besotted friend that the time he's spending messaging his bride has increased the workload on everyone else, the honeymoon is over, and he needs to get his mind back on the tasks at hand.

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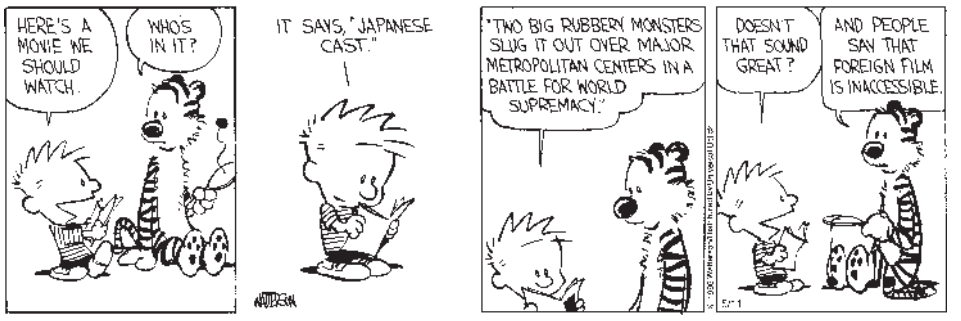
For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

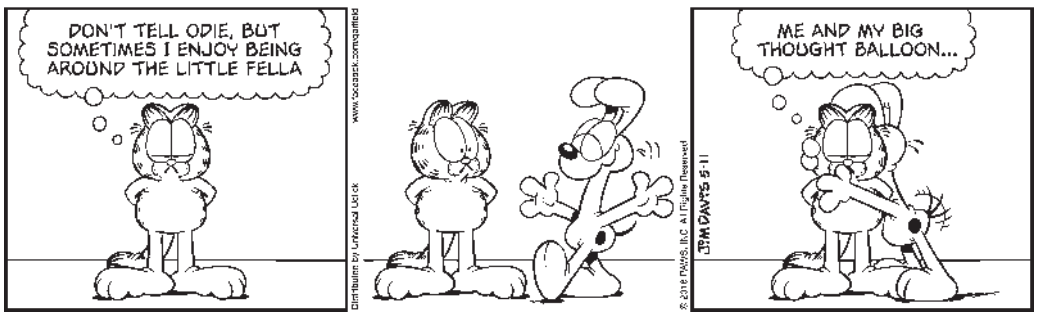
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HERE'S A MOVIE WE SHOULD WATCH.
WHO'S IN IT?
IT SAYS, "JAPANESE CAST."
WATTERSON
"TWO BIG RUBBERY MONSTERS SLUG IT OUT OVER MAJOR METROPOLITAN CENTERS IN A BATTLE FOR WORLD SUPREMACY."
DOESN'T THAT SOUND GREAT?
AND PEOPLE SAY THAT FOREIGN FILM IS INACCESSIBLE.

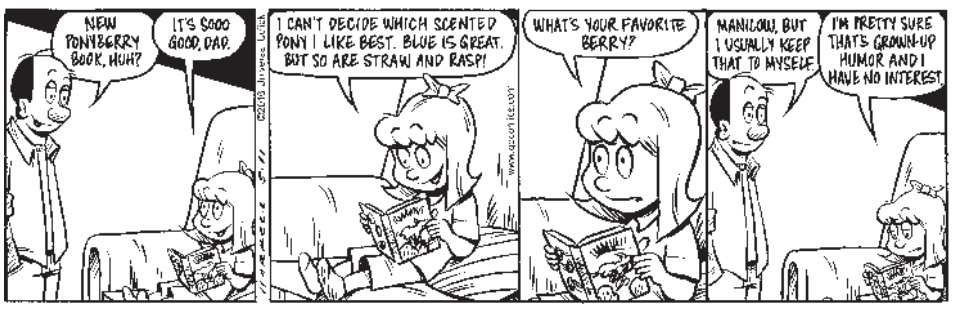
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



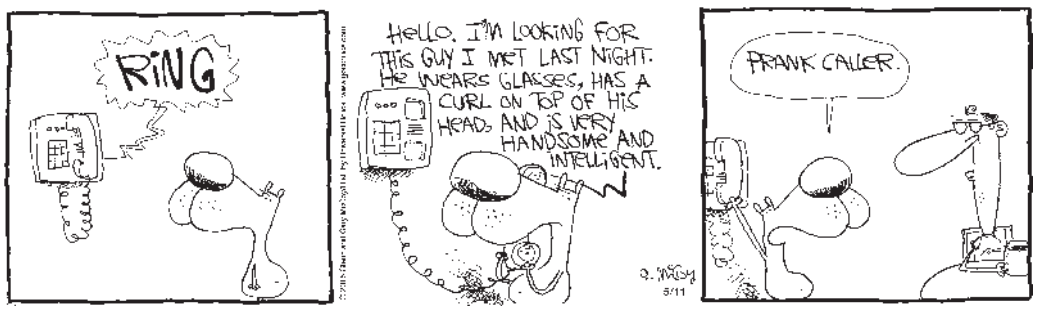
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


NEW PONYBERRY BOOK, HUH?
IT'S SOOO GOOD, DAD.
I CAN'T DECIDE WHICH SCENTED PONY I LIKE BEST. BLUE IS GREAT. BUT SO ARE STRAW AND RASP!
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE BERRY?
MANICOW, BUT I USUALLY KEEP THAT TO MYSELF
I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S GROWN-UP HUMOR AND I HAVE NO INTEREST.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


RING
HELLO. I'M LOOKING FOR THIS GUY I MET LAST NIGHT. HE WEARS GLASSES, HAS A CURL ON TOP OF HIS HEAD, AND IS VERY HANDSOME AND INTELLIGENT.
PRANK CALLER.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

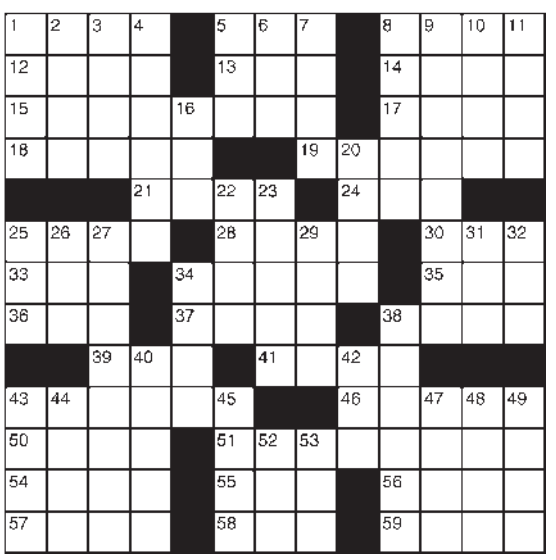
ACROSS
1 Safe-cracker
5 "Kapow!"
8 Grade-school basics
12 Reed instrument
13 TV Tarzan Ron
14 Tide type
15 Pessimistic
17 Donated
18 Ward of Warbucks
19 Stopped
21 Beehive State
24 Arced tennis shot
25 Bath spots
28 Achy
30 Toss in
33 Santa — winds
34 Moral principle
35 Dove's call
36 Medico
37 Praise
38 Stretches (out)
39 Decks in the ring
41 Israel's Golda
43 Spruced (up)
46 Code name?
50 Deserve
51 Like a menu on a website
54 Out of control
55 Motorist's org.
56 Wife of Geraint
57 Tries the tea
58 Still
59 Palm starch

DOWN
1 Luke's teacher
2 Black, in verse
3 Prom dress
4 Einstein
5 Spell-off
6 Carte lead-in
7 Legend
8 — -Saxon
9 Drive off, as a mugger
10 Bear lair
11 Raced
16 Wager
20 Baldwin of "Aloha"
22 "The Thin Man" dog
23 [Yawn]
25 Wee bit
26 Popular card game
27 Setting
29 Carousel, for one
31 Fawn's mama
32 Two, in Acapulco
34 Otherwise
38 Wears away
40 Cries from sties
42 Little rascal
43 Herbal brews
44 Neil Diamond's "— Said"
45 June 6, 1944
47 Barrett or Jaffe
48 Big gulp
49 Within (Pref.)
52 "Norma —"
53 Granola morsel

Solution time: 24 mins.

F	T	N	A	■	M	A	R	■	Z	O	O	M
B	A	E	R	■	A	P	U	■	A	G	R	A
B	R	A	M	B	L	E	S	■	G	E	A	R
■	■	■	F	A	T	■	S	I	R	E	N	S
M	O	D	U	S	■	O	I	S	■	■	■	■
A	R	I	L	■	C	H	A	M	B	R	A	Y
R	A	N	■	A	L	A	N	S	■	C	R	A
C	L	A	M	B	A	R	S	■	T	I	C	K
■	■	■	E	■	S	E	■	S	I	L	O	S
S	C	A	R	E	S	■	D	U	D	■	■	■
L	U	L	L	■	A	D	A	M	B	E	D	E
C	J	A	I	■	C	O	N	■	I	K	E	A
G	O	I	N	■	I	S	K	■	I	E	N	I

Yesterday's answer 5-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Holly Valance, 33; Amanda Freitag, 44; Frances Fisher, 64; Eric Burdon, 75.

Happy Birthday: Take control of whatever situation you face. Your honest approach and understanding attitude will win favors that will put you in a position to make a difference. Travel, education and networking will all lead to a bright and exciting future. Let your feelings be known and don't hesitate to make domestic changes or romantic plans for two. Your numbers are 2, 8, 14, 22, 29, 37, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let children or domestic situations get you down. Put emotions aside and take on a physical challenge that will ease stress or help you bring in more cash. Focus on getting things done. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take the plunge and spend a little on updating your home. Consider entertaining more or making your place comfortable and convenient. Personal relationships will be enhanced if you share your feelings and plans for the future. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Stay focused on what and who is important to you. Do whatever it takes to stabilize important relationships, and avoid dealing with people who are deceptive or take you for granted. Invest in your future. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Mingle, participate and help where help is needed. Your contribution will lead to interesting people and opportunities. Larger quarters or sharing your space with more people is featured. Someone from your past will bring back fond memories. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Problems will develop if you try to take over. Do what you do best and don't expect anything in return. The changes that will bring the best results are those that encourage you to develop your skills and knowledge. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Engage in activities that will help you get to know your neighbors or co-workers better. Showing interest in what others do and contributing what you have to offer will raise your confidence and your profile. Romance will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take part in events or functions that will get you out of the house and involved in your community. A disciplined approach to bringing about positive changes will be rewarding. Don't mix emotional differences with professional dealings. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Discuss your plans and be sure to check out suggestions that are unique. Taking an unusual route or position will bring you increased awareness and knowledge. Express how you feel and find out where you stand. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Avoid people who entice you to participate in indulgent or expensive pastimes. Make the right choice and do whatever it takes to improve your life, health and financial position. Work hard, stay fit and avoid poor influences. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Attend a reunion or get together with people you can share memories and future plans with. Host an event or make residential alterations that will improve your standard of living. Love and romance will add to your happiness. Share your emotions. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Try new things. Make changes that will show off your versatility and help you convince others that you are capable of handling more responsibilities. Refuse to let someone's insecurity stop you from following your dreams. Change will lead to good fortune and new beginnings. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Let the past inform your future decisions. Pick the strategies that have worked the best for you and weave them into your current situation and plans. A partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, polite and mindful. You are sympathetic and admirable.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	6	1	4	7		
	4						8	
6								4
5		4	1		9	3		6
7								9
9		6				2		8
1			2	4	3			7
	6						2	
		7	9	5	6	1		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	6	9	3	4	2	1	7	8
4	8	2	9	1	7	6	5	3
1	7	3	5	8	6	2	4	9
7	2	8	4	5	1	3	9	6
3	9	4	6	7	8	5	2	1
6	5	1	2	3	9	4	8	7
8	3	5	1	9	4	7	6	2
2	4	7	8	6	3	9	1	5
9	1	6	7	2	5	8	3	4

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

LEARNING MODULES Solution: 10 letters

Y	L	O	G	I	C	A	L	E	N	A	P	I	N	E
M	H	S	K	N	I	L	T	O	P	I	C	S	S	T
U	S	C	R	E	H	C	A	E	T	O	E	R	T	A
R	L	F	R	T	P	U	N	E	M	G	U	N	U	D
O	O	I	E	A	A	D	D	P	A	O	E	S	D	P
F	O	L	D	E	R	S	L	P	C	T	E	O	E	U
R	T	E	I	R	G	E	B	I	N	R	C	R	N	P
L	E	S	U	C	T	U	I	O	S	U	O	D	T	R
I	M	A	G	E	S	C	C	H	M	T	A	S	S	E
N	T	I	D	E	S	O	E	E	S	T	E	S	T	S
E	O	N	L	I	N	E	N	J	A	R	M	D	L	E
A	T	W	T	N	N	T	W	E	B	L	E	E	E	N
R	R	E	E	U	S	G	D	L	I	U	B	D	A	T
C	M	C	T	I	P	R	O	F	E	S	S	O	R	O
S	T	X	E	T	V	I	D	E	O	S	R	M	N	O

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 5/11

Add, Build, Complete, Connect, Content, Course, Create, Data, Documents, Edit, Files, Film, Folders, Forum, Graphic, Guide, Hierarchy, Images, Items, Learn, Linear, Links, Listed, Logical, Menu, Mode, Online, Order, Panel, Present, Professor, Reading, Site, Store, Students, Subject, Subpage, Teacher, Tests, Text, Tools, Topics, Update, User, Videos, View, Web

Yesterday's Answer: Polynesia

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Low in fat

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

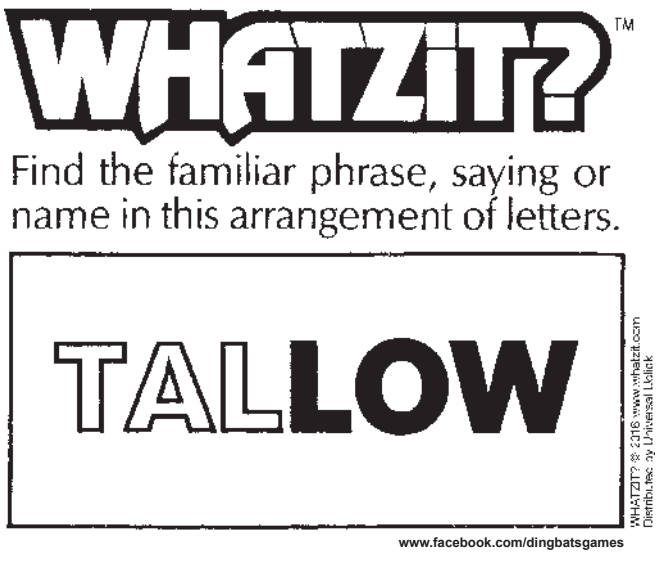
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.


WHATZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
TALLOW
WHATZIT? © 2016 www.whatzit.com Distrib. by Universal Uclick
www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Vacancy Announcement
(2) Maintenance - Atleast high school graduate. A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both witten and oral form.
Submit Applications To:
AYD Services, Inc.
Tel. # 235-7011

CRYSTAL WEDDING STUDIO
HR.CWS@YAHOO.COM
Is looking for:
- Photographer
- Makeup Artist

1+ years experience.
Mandarin speaking preferred.

CMLC ARTHA CO., LTD.
P.O.Box 500439, Saipan, MP 96950
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Dive Instructor
Preferably can speak Korean and Japanese.
Must possess current Scuba Diving instructor license from a Professional Scuba Diving Association (PADI, NAUI, CMAS). Must have at least 2 to 5 years experience.
No phone call please. Interested U.S. applicants can send their resume to acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

WANTED
Cement Laborer
- Cement handling experience preferred.
- Will train motivated individuals
- Wages based on experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc.
Tel: 670 322-3333

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
2 - Silkscreen Printer
1 - Silkscreen Printer
1 - General Manager
1 - Sales Representative
1 - Admin. Manager
U.S qualified applicants, email your resume at hr.islandapparel@gmail.com.
No phone calls please
Island Apparel
P.O. Box 502912,
Saipan MP 96950

POI Aviation
invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Avionics Technician (2)
Requires: High School graduate/GED or Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program. FCC license or NCATT certification or an equivalent foreign license. Four (4) years experience in an avionics/electrical career field; or two (2) years of accredited schooling in aviation electronics and two (2) years related experience. Performs various troubleshooting and evaluation of aircraft avionics systems; removal and installation of panels and components; and repair work. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (5)
Requires: Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Performs various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than May 23, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM. Plaintiff, vs. BRIAN D. RICHARDS and REGINA E. MASGA fka REGINA M. RICHARDS, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 14-0219(R)

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 3, 2016, at 10:30 a.m., a hearing will be held before Judge CAMACHO on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, *Guma Hustisia*, Civic Center, Saipan. Commonwealth or the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of April, 2016.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT/ DEPUTY CLERK

EMPLOYMENT

MARIANAS OUTSOURCE LLC. is looking for 1 Full time Computer Specialist, Part Timer - 1 Grounds Keeper, 1 Commercial Cleaner, General Maintenance - $6.05/hr. Interested US qualified applicants send resume & police clearance at marianasoutsource@gmail.com.

JAGUAR LIMITED
DBA CLUB MERMAID
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) WAITRESS
2-3 years experience as a waitress in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business
Salary: $ 6.05 per hour

Other Qualifications:
- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently

(5) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Salary: $ 6.05 per hour

Qualifications:
- At least 2-3 years experience as a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry
- Full time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to PMB 697 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM – 9:00PM

JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORP.
DBA CLUB MICRONESIA
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) WAITRESS
2-3 years experience as a waitress in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business
Salary: $ 6.05 per hour

Other Qualifications:
- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently

(5) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Salary: $ 6.05 per hour

Qualifications:
- At least 2-3 years experience as a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry
- Full time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502589, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545

WORLD INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) WAITRESS
2-3 years experience as a waitress in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business
Salary: $ 6.05 per hour

Other Qualifications:
- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently

(5) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Salary: $ 6.05 per hour

Qualifications:
- At least 2-3 years experience as a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry
- Full time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to PMB 654 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

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To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.

AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE NMC 1981

GUAM VISITORS BUREAU SETBISION BISITAN GUÅHAN

EXPORT 101

A seminar on exporting your product from the CNMI to China

Presented by:
Andrea Shen,
Commercial Assistant
Foreign Commercial Service
U.S. Consulate Shenyang, China

Interested in exporting your product from the CNMI? Already exporting your product and looking to expand into new markets? Then you don't want to miss this opportunity to hear from the experts. Ms. Andrea Shen from the United States Consulate General in Shenyang, China will discuss the rules and regulations on exporting your food/beverage products to China, how to get your product ready for export, and the resources available to help you find qualified international buyers. 95% of your potential customers are located overseas -- come and find out how to connect and communicate effectively with this vast potential!

When:
Monday,
May 23, 2016
3:30pm – 5:30pm

Where:
Northern Marianas College Campus
Room D - 1

Fee:
FREE OF CHARGE

TO REGISTER log onto http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com

For more information, please visit www.pacificsbdc.com or call the CNMI SBDC Office at 670-664-3018.

Supported by: CNMI Department of COMMERCE; US Commercial Service; CDA Commonwealth Development Authority

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PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(2) BANQUET CAPTAIN
Minimum of 18 months related work experience. Good communication skills and ability to work well with people are essential. Preferably with administrative skills and knowledge in Micros Point of Sale system. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

CLUBMATES
Must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) SALES ASSOCIATE
Seeking a highly motivated sales associates to join our team. The ideal candidate will have customer service experience and be able to work flexible hours. Bilingual in Japanese, Korean or Russian a plus. Previous Retail experience preferred, but we are willing to train. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, May 16th, 2016.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CTSI Logistics is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Logistics Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course and with at least 6 years management experience in the logistics business with emphasis on airfreight, ocean freight forwarding, warehousing and fuel hauling operations. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, Environmental and Occupational Safety Hazards is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Accounting Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course in accounting with at least 5 years experience in financial management: directing the preparation of financial reports; implementing cash management; and directing investment activities for a logistics supply chain business operations. Must have excellent written communication and analysis skills for financial data reporting. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics software are a must. Expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point is required. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Sales & Marketing Manager
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Sales or Marketing or any Business course and at least 3 years of managerial work experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations are a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Accountant
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 3 years work experience in financial management for a logistics/supply chain business or agency operations. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics systems. Must have expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Storage and Distribution Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years of distribution and warehousing supervisory experience. Knowledge of household goods handling and airfreight and oceanfreight operations is required. Proficiency in Warehouse management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Shipping Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of shipping, receiving and warehousing supervisory experience is required. Proficiency in shipping operations, shipping documentation & cargo management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, 49 CFR & IMDG Code is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines. Knowledge of bill of ladings, scheduling and planning inbound and outbound shipments is a must.

Transportation Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of logistics and trucking operations supervisory experience is required. Must be knowledgeable in transportation and safety regulations and proficient in various logistic software. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Freight Forwarding Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years experience in freight forwarding operations and 1-year experience in transportation security and communication related activities. Knowledge of TSA security regulations and proficiency in TSA Known Shipper Management System are a must. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation and IATA related trainings. Proficiency in airfreight documentation, freight forwarding software, FEDEX systems and operations are a must. Must be familiar with airline operations and regulations.

Cargo and Freight Agent (5)
Associate's Degree with a minimum of 2 years experience in a logistics, freight brokerage or warehouse services business. Must know how to operate a forklift with certification. Must be able to do strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of small items on the job. Licensed to drive 4x6 wheel closed vans and must have obtained training or certification in handling hazardous materials, Occupational Safety, Hazardous Waste Operation and IAC CCSF authorized screener. Must be proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs and available to work on evenings and weekend hours.

Specialized Truck Driver (7)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Must have at least 3 years experience in hauling petroleum products with the corresponding SMITHS & STOPS training certification, carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Heavy Equipment Truck Driver (3)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Experience in carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Shipping and Receiving Clerk (4)
Associate's Degree and at least 2 years work related experience. Must be proficient in MS Office programs as well as other planning and logistics software. Knowledge of supply chain, shipping operations and procedures, document preparation and recordkeeping is required. Should possess good interpersonal and verbal communication skills.

Accounting Clerk
High School graduate, GED, Associates degree or equivalent with at least 2-3 years bookkeeping or clerical accounting work experience in freight forwarding operation, sales or service related work. Associate Degree in Accounting, Auditing, Business Management or Finance an advantage. Must be proficient with Microsoft Office applications such as Word Processor and Spreadsheet; and proficient with Accounting software such as SAP-R3 FICO (Financial and Controlling) system, ERP system, and HR2 system).

Truck Mechanic
Vocational or High School Graduate. Must be able to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, or maintain and repair any type of engines. Minimum of two (2) year work experience is required on these areas: lubrication, repairs and servicing, use of machine tools, welding and flame cutting, engine elements, gears, brakes, transmission, exhausts, etc. Proficiency in critical devices for fuel tank trucks is a must.

Automotive Body Repairer
Formal Auto Body Training in a Vocational School is required as well as a minimum of one-year experience in repairing and refinishing automotive vehicle bodies' vehicle frames. Proficiency in automotive body painting is required.

Janitor
Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should submit resume / application to CTSI Logistics, Lower Base not later than May 16, 2016.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Curry returns with 40 points in OT win over Blazers

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Stephen Curry returned from a sprained right knee to score an NBA-record 17 points in overtime, finishing with 40 as the Golden State Warriors rallied to take a 3-1 lead in the Western Conference semifinals with a 132-125 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Monday night.

Playing for the first time since he was injured in Game 4 of the first-round series against Houston, Curry was rusty for three quarters and sensational down the stretch after the Warriors trailed by as much as 16 points.

Originally expected to play about 25 minutes off the bench, Curry picked up a heavier workload in the second half after Shaun Livingston, who had been starting in his absence, was ejected in the second quarter after arguing a call and picking up two technical fouls.

His victorious return came hours after a person with knowledge of the award told The Associated Press that Curry would repeat as NBA MVP, with the announcement coming as early as Tuesday.

The Warriors can win the series Wednesday night at home in Game 5.

Damian Lillard finished with 36 points and 10 assists for Portland.

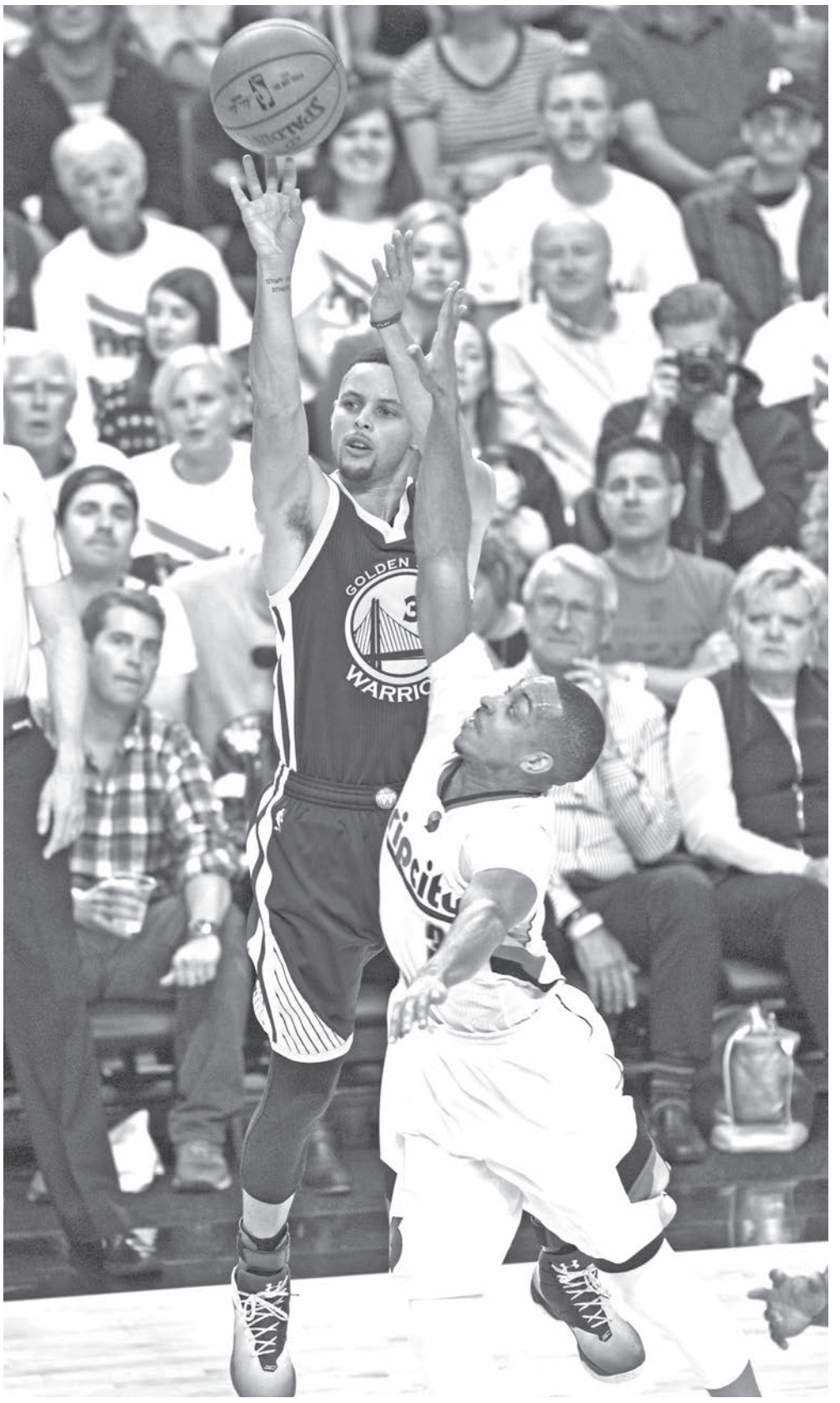
Curry's fast-break layup gave the defending NBA champions a 120-118 lead with 2:21 left in the extra period. He followed with a 3-pointer, pounding his chest and pumping his fist in celebration, posturing for the courtside fans.

Harrison Barnes' layup extended the lead to 125-118 and Portland couldn't catch up. Klay Thompson finished with 23.

Curry's long jumper gave the Warriors a 92-87 lead with 9:01 left in the fourth quarter. Lillard's 3-pointer gave Portland back a 99-97 lead, but Curry nailed his first 3 of the game to give the Warriors a 103-100 lead with 4:35 left.

Draymond Green dunked to keep Golden State within 109-108 late in regulation. Mason Plumlee's finger-roll layup extended Portland's margin but Barnes tied it at 111-all with a 3-pointer for Golden State with 51 seconds left, and both Lillard and Curry missed to force the OT.

Curry led the Warriors to an NBA-record 73 wins in the regular season, a year after leading the team to its first NBA championship in 40 years. He averaged just over 30 points per game this season.



AP

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, left, shoots over Portland Trail Blazers guard C.J. McCollum, right, during the second half of Game 4 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series, Monday, May 9, 2016, in Portland, Ore.

The Trail Blazers narrowed the series to 2-1 on Saturday night when Lillard scored 40 points in a 120-108 Portland victory while Golden State was still without its star guard. The Blazers became the only team to defeat the Warriors twice this season.

Maurice Harkless, who had been icing his hip during Game 3, hit Portland's first 3-pointer of the night. Lillard hit two more 3s as the Blazers took an early 12-2 lead.

Curry came in off the bench with 5:56 left in the first quarter and Portland up 16-2. His only points in the quarter came off a pair of jumpers before he went back to the bench.

Heat 94, Raptors 87

In Miami, just about everyone struggled to score, with one very notable exception.

Dwyane Wade was rolling.

And the Miami Heat couldn't be more thankful.

Wade scored 30 points, including the layup that sent the game to overtime and finished off Miami's frantic comeback from a nine-point deficit, as the Heat beat the Toronto Raptors in Game 4 of the Eastern Conference semifinals on Monday night.

The series is tied 2-2, heading to Toronto for Game 5 on Wednesday.

"It looked dark for a minute," Wade said, "but there was no quit in us."

It looked dark for a lot of minutes before Wade and the Heat figured it out. Goran Dragic had 15 points, including a three-point play that just about clinched it for the Heat with 22.4 seconds left in overtime. Joe Johnson also scored 15, despite still being without a 3-pointer in this series - but setting the tone with two blocked shots in the first 59 seconds of the extra session.

Wade didn't score in overtime until his steal and dunk closed the scoring. He didn't have to, either.

"I was tired," Wade said. "I was using myself as a decoy. All eyes were on me and I wasn't going to force anything."

Miami led for only 13 seconds in the fourth quarter, but never trailed in overtime - the third time in four games the Heat and Raptors needed five extra minutes to decide a winner.

"That's what you get when two teams are trying to make the conference finals," said Toronto's Kyle Lowry, who fouled out late in regulation after scoring just 10 points on 2-for-11 shooting and blamed himself for the loss. "We're going at it."

Terrence Ross and Cory Joseph each scored 14 for Toronto, which shot 39 percent.

Bismack Biyombo and DeMarre Carroll added 13 apiece for the Raptors, while the starting backcourt of Lowry and DeMar DeRozan - who is obviously bothered by a thumb injury—combined for 19 points on 6-for-28 shooting.

"Two tough-minded teams," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. "They came out and forced their will on us at the end of the game."

Miami was down 77-68 midway through the fourth, and still trailed 79-72 when Lowry got the roll on a 15-footer with 5 minutes left.

That's when Wade went to work.

He scored the next five for Miami, getting the Heat within 79-77. The deficit was still two when Lowry fouled out - on an offensive foul - with 1:58 left. The Heat finally got the equalizer with 12.6 seconds left, Wade getting to the rim for a layup that knotted the game at 83-all.

Joseph missed a jumper to end regulation and the Raptors scored a mere four points in the extra session.

"I don't think there's any doubt this game was going to go into overtime," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "It's just one heck of a series."

It's even in games, 2-2.

The Heat have outscored the Raptors, 379-374.

The difference has been Wade, who's averaging 27.3 points in this series—nine more than any other player.

"I'm as confident as I've been all season right now," Wade said.

AP Source: Curry wins 2nd straight MVP

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry is adding a second straight MVP award to his record-setting season.

A person with knowledge of the award says Curry will be announced as the winner perhaps as soon as Tuesday. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the NBA has not revealed the winner.

With his unmatched long-range shooting and slick ball-handling, Curry led the Warriors to an NBA-record 73 wins in the regular season as both he and his team somehow improved after he won the MVP and led Golden State to its first championship in 40 years the previous season.

The honor comes as no surprise as Curry has been the front-runner since early in the season. The only drama remaining is whether he will become the first player ever to win the award unanimously.

"I kind of felt bad today because I didn't tell him congratulations because I felt like I knew since December," teammate Draymond Green told reporters at a shootaround before Game 4 of Golden State's second-round series at Portland.

"It didn't feel like this momentous occasion. It didn't feel that way."

Curry led the league in scoring with 30.1 points per game and shattered his own record for 3-pointers by making 402, becoming the first player in league history to top 300 and 400 in a season.

But Curry is more than just a scorer. He averaged 6.7 assists and 5.4 rebounds per game, led the NBA with 2.1 steals per game, while shooting 50.4 percent from the field, 45.4 percent from 3-point range and 90.8 percent from the foul line.

More than the numbers, Curry put on a show almost every night during Golden State's record-setting season that started with 24 straight wins and ended with the Warriors breaking the single-season wins record of 72 set by Chicago in 1995-96.

With range that extended to halfcourt—and sometimes even beyond—and the ability to create space for his own shots with his ball-handling and opportunities for his teammates by the way he stretched the floor, Curry made the Warriors offense click.

Perhaps no player has ever had that combination of traits in NBA history. Curry has done it with a baby-faced look and a 6-foot-3, 190-pound frame that led coach Steve Kerr to say that he is able to dominate while looking like "he could be your little brother."

"The way that I play has a lot of skill but is stuff that if you go to the YMCA or rec leagues or church leagues around the country, everybody wants to shoot, everybody wants to handle the ball, make creative passes and stuff like that," Curry said after winning AP Male Athlete of the Year earlier this season. "You can work on that stuff. Not everybody has the vertical, or the physical gifts to be able to go out and do a windmill dunk and stuff like that. I can't even do it."

Strasburg, Nats agree to deal adding $175M

WASHINGTON (AP)—Stephen Strasburg is skipping his first shot at free agency, instead agreeing to a new contract with the Washington Nationals that will pay the pitcher $175 million over seven seasons starting in 2017, according to a person familiar with the negotiations.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Monday night —while Strasburg was pitching against the Detroit Tigers—because the Nationals had not announced the deal.

After the Nationals' 5-4 victory, in which he allowed four runs on a pair of homers in seven-plus innings but did not get a decision, Strasburg deflected questions about his contract, saying: "I don't really have a comment about that right now."

Asked about his comfort level in Washington, Strasburg answered: "Growing up in Southern California, San Diego, all my life and stuff, the East Coast is a little bit of a change. But the city of D.C. has been great to me and my family. It's really grown on us. We're very comfortable here."

Meanwhile, moments after Bryce Harper was ejected from the dugout, pinch hitter Clint Robinson hit a game-ending homer to give the Nationals a comeback victory over the Tigers.

As he joined his teammates in racing to the plate to greet Robinson for a celebration, Harper yelled something in the direction of umpire Brian Knight.

Knight pointed toward the dugout and signaled Harper's ejection after the batter before Robinson, Danny Espinosa, was called out on strikes.

Then Robinson connected with a 1-0 pitch from Mark Lowe (1-2).

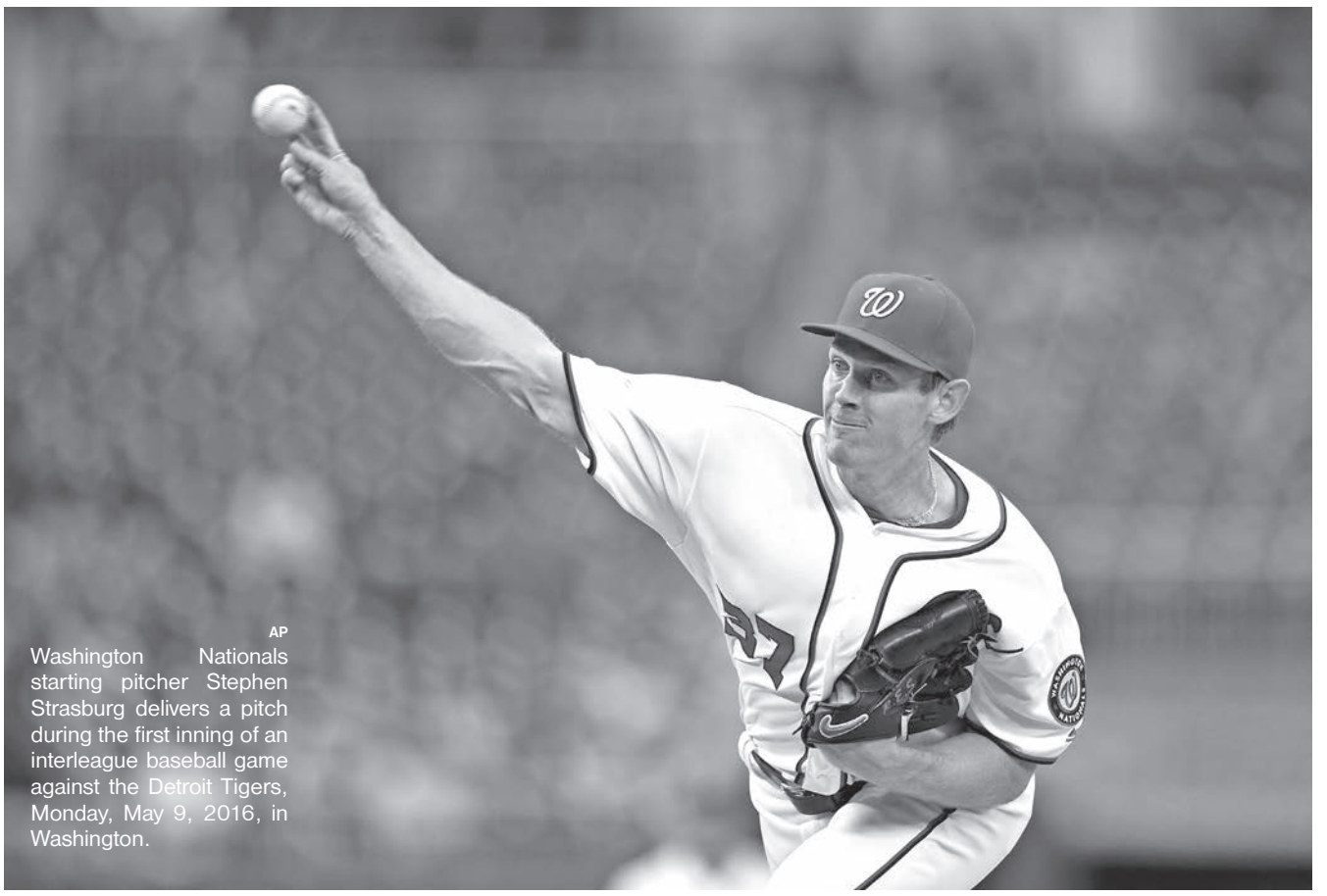
Asked whether he expects to be fined, Harper said: "If I do, I do. I'll pay it. Maybe he'll get fined, too. So we'll see."

Harper was ejected after Danny Espinosa struck out looking. According to Harper and manager Dusty Baker, several members of the Nationals were complaining about that call.

"I think everybody was up on the steps and preaching about what they thought was going on," Harper said. "And (Knight) picked me and said, `See you later."

Said Baker: "I guess you can't kick everybody out on the team, because a lot of guys were hollering about it."

As for having the reigning NL MVP removed from a tied game in the ninth inning, Baker said: "He's an emotional young man, like most of us on the field out there. You certainly don't like him to get tossed, but every once in a while, you've got to blow off some steam or else you go crazy."



AP

Washington Nationals starting pitcher Stephen Strasburg delivers a pitch during the first inning of an interleague baseball game against the Detroit Tigers, Monday, May 9, 2016, in Washington.

Baker went out to argue with Knight after the ejection. After the game, Baker said the umpire told him he had considered kicking out Harper earlier in the evening.

Yankees 6, Royals 3

In New York, Carlos Beltran hit two of New York's five solo homers in the first three innings off an ineffective Chris Young, and Aroldis Chapman allowed a run in his Yankees debut before closing out a victory over the slumping Royals.

Brian McCann, Brett Gardner and Aaron Hicks also went deep to help the Yankees win the opener of a four-game series against the defending World Series champions.

Red Sox 14, Athletics 7

In Boston, Jackie Bradley Jr. extended his career-high hitting streak to 15 games with a two-run single in Boston's six-run fourth and added a grand slam two innings later, carrying the Red Sox over the struggling Athletics.

Brock Holt hit a two-run homer, and David Ortiz had three hits and two RBI for Boston, which has won seven of its last 10 games.

Marlins 4, Brewers 1

In Miami, Jose Fernandez pitched well enough to overcome a teammate's home run that was negated due to a baserunning blunder, and the Marlins beat the Brewers.

Fernandez (4-2) allowed four hits and pitched around four walks in seven shutout innings, his longest start this season. He improved to 20-1 at Marlins Park.

Reds 3, Pirates 2

In Cincinnati, Tucker Barnhart hit the last of Cincinnati's three solo homers off Jonathon Niese, and Reds relievers threw three scoreless innings -- a rarity for the major leagues' worst bullpen—to close out a victory over the Pirates.

Zack Cozart, Joey Votto and Barnhart connected off Jonathon Niese (3-2), with all three homers barely reaching the stands in left field.

Astros 7, Indians 1

In Houston, Jose Altuve had three RBI and Colby Rasmus added two as the Astros jumped on Corey Kluber for five runs in the third and cruised to a win over the Indians.

Altuve drove in two with a double in the third and Rasmus had a two-run single later in the inning to make it 4-0.

White Sox 8, Rangers 4, 12 innings

In Arlington, Todd Frazier hit a tiebreaking grand slam in the 12th inning for his second homer of the game, powering the White Sox over the Rangers.

Frazier had four hits and a career-high six RBI to help the White Sox win after the bullpen blew leads in the eighth and ninth innings despite a majors-leading 1.82 ERA coming in.

Diamondbacks 10, Rockies 5

In Denver, Jake Lamb homered, tripled and drove in four runs, Jean Segura also went deep and the Diamondbacks beat the Rockies.

Archie Bradley (1-0) shook off a rough start to pitch six innings and get the win the same day he was recalled from Triple-A Reno.

Mariners 5, Rays 2

In Seattle, Ketel Marte hit a tiebreaking three-run homer off Steve Geltz and had a career-high four hits to lead the Mariners to a victory over the Rays.

Felix Hernandez (3-2) allowed just two runs on four hits over seven innings to pick up the win. Steve Cishek earned his 10th save of the season.

Dana Eveland (0-1) was saddled with the loss.

Mets 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Steven Matz won his fifth straight start, Curtis Granderson homered on the first pitch of the game, and Kevin Plawecki also went deep to lead the Mets over the Dodgers in their first meeting since last year's NL Division Series.

Matz (5-1) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings and struck out five in the opener of a four-game series.

Blue Jays 3, Giants 1

In San Francisco, Edwin Encarnacion hit a two-run homer, Aaron Sanchez struck out five over seven innings, and the Blue Jays beat the Giants in their first visit to AT&T Park in nearly three years.

Encarnacion connected in the third off Jake Peavy (1-4), who has given up five homers in his last two outings and lost his third straight start.

Sanchez (3-1) allowed one run and three hits and walked one in a strong 105-pitch performance.

Goal of FIFA membership sets up new soccer politics problem

GENEVA (AP)—Despite FIFA's ongoing image crisis fueled by corruption cases, membership of the organization remains a goal being pursued with passion.

Still, joining soccer's world body—gaining entry to World Cup qualifying and million-dollar FIFA funding—can create new political problems on and off the field, including for players.

On Friday, the 209 national soccer federations who make up FIFA should add two more members at a meeting in Mexico City.

Kosovo and Gibraltar can expect to join the club, and then be fast-tracked into the 2018 World Cup qualifying groups which kick off in September.

Kosovo's case is the more complex, posing the question of who is able to play for the largely ethnic Albanian former enclave of Serbia.

"There are many players in Europe (that) Kosovo may call, and they have expressed the desire to choose Kosovo colors," the national federation spokesman Fazli Berisha told The Associated Press in an email reply.

It could see a wave of transfer requests to FIFA from players who opted to represent countries, including Albania and Switzerland, before Kosovo started to get international soccer recognition just two years ago.

The player eligibility issue was raised, and not resolved, when Kosovo was elected a member of UEFA last week. That win cleared the way for FIFA's vote.

The Swiss federation led calls to delay taking Kosovo into UEFA. Its European Championship squad next month should have several Kosovo-eligible players, including midfield stars Xherdan Shaqiri and Granit Xhaka, aged 24 and 23, respectively.

It would be unfair to put players on the spot of having to choose, Swiss federation secretary general Alex Miescher said.

"Whatever they decide upon will not be for a nation, but against a nation," Miescher told UEFA's congress. "This will create a lot, a lot of problems."

FIFA declined to comment in detail ahead of meetings in Mexico City, but noted that its player status committee decides if players can switch allegiance. That panel is on new ground. Typically, players who are eligible for more than one country are allowed to move once, and only if their appearance for initial country was not in a senior competitive international match.

Now, FIFA must consider what to do with established senior internationals who previously did not have Kosovo as an option.

"We've asked (FIFA) the question in a very direct way, and we'd like to receive a clear answer," UEFA legal director Alasdair Bell said last week.

Assuming Kosovo joins FIFA, all parties seem to agree decisions should wait until the European Championship, in France, finishes in July.

The Albania vs. Switzerland match on June 11 in Lens has an extra angle since the Group A draw was made in December.

"I will be there to be Swiss, like all my teammates," Valon Behrami, the 31-year-old, Kosovo-born Switzerland midfielder, told the Tribune de Geneve daily. "We will see after the Euro. This is such a personal choice that you should not interfere."

Saipan Fresh boosts playoff bid in DL caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Fresh Market gained back-to-back wins last week to boost its playoff bid in the DL Sports Association Invitational Basketball League Season 5.

Saipan Fresh first downed Kalayaan, 68-54, last Thursday, and then whipped Island's Best Choice, 80-56, last Saturday night at the San Antonio court to improve its record to 3-3 for fifth place in the team standings. The Top 8 squads after the single-round robin elimination in the nine-team field will make it to the playoffs.

Kelvin Fitial, who had 18 markers in their 14-point victory over Kalayaan, picked up where he left off, tallying 27 in their demolition of Island's Best Choice. He led his team's breakaway in the second half, firing 12 points in the third canto to turn a 39-30 halftime edge to a 57-39 lead, going into the fourth period. The former CNMI National Team member added 7 more in the final canto with his points coming in streak before he sat down in the last three minutes of the match, as Saipan Fresh had the game in the bag.

Fitial drew ample support from his teammates as seven other Saipan Fresh players contributed at least 4 points each. Zack Babauta added 10, Jestoni Pineda and Alex Lauron chipped in 8 apiece, and Rey Pestilos tallied 6. Dexter Tenorio and Oliver and Maverick Itibus combined for 12 markers.

JV Bayking had 15 points to lead Island's Best Choice, which had a roller-coaster ride in the elimination round and finished the regular season with a 3-5 record.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Island's Best Choice's JV Bayking, right, and Saipan Fresh Market's Maverick Itibus battle for the rebound during their game in the DL caging last Saturday at the San Antonio court.

Bayking dropped 8 of his total markers in the first period, which saw Saipan Fresh ahead by 3, 18-15, behind the 6 straight points of Fitial. Fitial was then held to two field goals in the second half, but his teammates stepped up as Saipan Fresh nearly got a double-digit advantage at the break, 39-30.

After the short breather, Fitial went back to work and Island Best's failed to counter attack with Angelo Fernando and Matt Duenas missing the team's last match in the elimination.

Saipan Fresh 80 — Fitial 27, Babauta 10, Lauron 8, Pineda 8, Pestillos 6, O. Itibus 4, M. Itibus 4, Tenorio 4.

Island's Best Choice 56 — Bayking 15, Odicta 13, Bongalan 8, Devero 6, Joyner 6, M. Usi 6.

Scoring by quarters: 18-15, 39-30, 57-39, 80-56.

COMETS

From Page 28

IT&E avoid a collision course with the unbeaten Comets in the first round of the playoffs, which will begin this Saturday. Instead, IT&E will duel the second-ranked Falcons (9-3) in the second playoff match at 11pm, while the Comets will face McDonald's (3-9) in the first game at 9pm. The two other pairings are Kagman Little Legals (9-3) versus the Braves (6-6) at 1pm and the Docomo Ol'Aces (7-5) against the Twins (6-6) at 3pm.

The playoff round will continue this Sunday with the winners in Games 1 and 4 squaring off in the first semis game and the victors in Games 2 and 3 meeting in the second Final Four match. The finals will then be played on May 22, while the consolation game is set for May 21.

Despite being highly favored to win against the Ol'Aces, the Comets nearly saw their hopes for an immaculate slate crush by the former, who led, 3-1, after four and half innings. The Ol'Aces held the Comets without a run in the first three innings before Sabby Saures scored off a stolen base at the bottom of the fourth. The Ol'Aces, who got into the board in the first inning from Ohane Borja's run off a wild pitch, got the one run back, plus one in the fifth off Lufo Babauta's two-run double to threaten the Comets.

However, the regular season champions fought back at the bottom of the fifth, thanks to Vincent Nakamura's two-run double, JP Castro and Saures' RBI singles, and Reid Teregeyo's run.

Now ahead after their offense worked in the fifth, the Comets turned to their defense at the top of the sixth to foil the Ol'Aces' upset bid. Nakamura, who was called for a hit by pitch on Ol'Aces leadoff batter Andre Macaranas, got the first stop when he struck out second batter Latrel Deleon Guerrero. He then gave up a single to Janna Hajishima before being relieved by Saures. Saures went on to get the last two strikeouts, leaving Macaranas and Deleon Guerrero stranded at third and second and securing the perfect record for the Comets.

Meanwhile, IT&E finished strong in the regular season after routing the Pirates and McDonalds.

IT&E needed only four innings in both games to notch its third and fourth win and moved out of the cellar.

Patrick Celis led IT&E's victory against the Pirates, as he went 3-for-3 at bat and scored three runs and two RBIs. He had two singles and a triple. Jayart Palma was also perfect in his three trips at bat, duplicated Celis' three runs, and made one double and two singles.

Dart Daddies take Masters division title

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Doro's Dart Daddies are the Masters division champions of the Bud Light Cup, the Saipan Electronic Darts Association's post-season tournament, as they beat the 6JMS Pythons in last week's finals held at the former's home bar in Middle Road in Garapan.

The Daddies blanked the Pythons in the race-to-nine contest behind the impressive games of Willy Cuesta, Chris Monsanto, Jhun Olita, J.R. Vito, and Pam Ybanez.

The quintet never gave their opponents—Burth Dacumos, Edzel Delfin, Ronald Doria, and Joel Gruy—any room to stage a comeback to seal the lopsided win.

The Dart Daddies defeated the Jokers Nakayoshi to clinch a finals berth, while the Pythons foiled the Doro's Darters' bid to make it a family affair.

The Jokers Chamberos were playing sister team Northrn Lights in the Tuesday B finals of the Bud Light Cup last night. The Chamberos edged the Jokers 21 Shockers in the semis, 8-6, while the Northern Lights drubbed the VFW Warriors, 8-4, in the other Final Four pairing.

The Jokers Spartans and Doro's RNV Mixed Nuts scored similar 8-6 decisions over the Blue Koi Managaha Boyz and Jokers Just Dart It to arrange their finals showdown in the C division. The championship match is set tonight at Doro's restaurant in Middle Road.

The first round of matches the Bud Light Cup in the Fanihi and Flame Tree divisions will begin tomorrow, May 12, in various bars in Garapan. The regular season ended last week.

The Mafia will face the Life After Darts, the Dart Vader will take on Preba Darts, while the Alamo Dragons will battle Team Fearless, and Parakeyu will clash with Ta-Chagi Talo in the Fanihi division.

In the Flame Tree, it will be the Latte Sparts against the Ridin'Darrty and the Kyodai versus the Killaz. Na'Gupu-Em-Tech will duel No Fear-One Shot in the other matchups.

Fanihi (Regular Season)

- Preba Darts 15, Parakeyu 0 (forfeit)
- Fearless 12, Dragons 3
- Mafia 10, After Darts 5
- Ta Chagi Talo 9, Dart Vader 6

Flame Tree (Regular Season)

- One Shot 15, No Fear 0 (forfeit)
- Latte Sparts 11, EmTech 4
- Ridin'Darrty 10, Kyodai 5
- Serial Killaz 9, Na'Gupu 6

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 6JMS Mafia II will begin its Bud Light Cup title campaign in the Fanihi division against the Doro's Life After Darts tomorrow.

LEE

From Page 28

"I lost momentum and focus in the second set after a bathroom break in the first set. I made mistakes in my volleys. Fortunately, my teammate cheered me on and trusted me, so in the third set, I regained my confidence and began hitting good shots. It's a lesson learned for me—not to go on a long break," the Saipan Community School student said.

In the Round of 8, Lee and Rengiil will be paired against another Japanese tandem in Himeno Sakatsume and Tomoka Yoshida, who took only two sets to eliminate Chinese-Taipei's Yuelin Chen and India's Amritalakshmi Shanmugam, 6-1, 6-0.

Two more Japanese teams marched into the quarterfinals of the lower half of the bracket. The third-ranked Sakura Hosogi and Shiko Tsukada booked the third Round of 8 slots in their group after sweeping Chinese-Taipei's Ya Chi Hsu and the U.S.' Casey Cummings, 6-1, 6-2. The fourth quarterfinals berth in the bottom half of the draw went to Mana Kawamura and Mahiro Koga who defeated the CNMI's Tania Tan and Japan's Fuka Sakano, 6-2, 6-0.

At the top half of the draw, the quarterfinalists were the No. 1 seeded pair of Charmaine Seah of Singapore and the U.S.' Sara Tsukamoto, Japan's Urara Hitomi and Nagomi Tanaka and Sophia Hamada and Kokomi Koyama and Chinese-Taipei's Ling Hsuan Wei and Ting-Chien Wei.

Tsukamoto and Seah shut down Guam's Anika SAchdev and Victoria Smith, 6-0, 6-0 to set a quarterfinal duel against Hitomi and Tanaka, a 6-1, 6-4 winner against Hong Kong's Avril Look and Skylar Wan. The Chinese-Taipei pair also posted a 6-1, 6-4 triumph over Japan's Airi Ohashi and Riho Yuasa to earn a Round of 8 meeting against Hamda and Koyama, who ousted Finland's Elisa Hirn and Hong Kong's Alicia Yue, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 12-10).

Meanwhile, the girls singles play will resume today with Lee battling Ling Hsuan Wei for the quarterfinals ticket. Lee and Wei moved into the second round following their two-set victories against Japan's Karen Kondo and Nagomi Tanaka, respectively.

2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League Winners

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United FC's U12 players and team manager Randy Steele pose with the perpetual trophy they won from the FA Challenge Cup and presented during the awards ceremony for the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Monday at Kanoa Resort.

MP United FC's U17 players gather for a photo after receiving their division championship trophy.

Shirley's FC players are presented with medals and the girls U15 division championship trophy. Also in the photo is Golden Boot winner Gillian Villagomez, back row left, of MP United.

Girls U15's Golden Glove awardee Theresa Toves, right, of Kanoa FC, is joined by her mother Catherine for a photo.

Tan Holdings FC players are joined by their team officials in receiving the first place medals and trophy in the boys U14 age group.

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Curry returns with 40 points in OT win over Blazers

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Comets sweep elims; IT&E avoids cellar

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Comets kept their perfect record in the regular season of the Majors division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball after beating the Docomo Ol'Aces, 6-3, while IT&E moved out of the cellar after winning its final two games last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The Comets finished the elimination with a 12-0 record to get the top seeding in the single-elimination playoffs, while IT&E finished the regular season with a 4-8 mark following victories over the Pirates, 14-4, and McDonald's, 11-0. The pair of wins helped

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kagman IT&E's Patrick Celis delivers a pitch to McDonald's during their game in the Majors division of the SLLB last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Lee advances to quarterfinals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Carol Lee and Palau's Ayana Rengiil made it to the quarterfinals of the doubles event in the Calvo's Select Care ITF Junior Championships after surviving a tough Japanese pair yesterday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Hagatna, Guam.

Lee and Rengiil needed a super tiebreaker third set to slip past Nanami Okamoto and Saki Oyama and avoid an early upset in the doubles field where the Pacific Oceania players are seeded second. The 14-year-old Lee and the 18-year-old Rengiil won the opening set convincingly, 6-2, but were denied the sweep, as the Japanese duo stunned their ranked opponents with a 6-1 triumph in the second. In the deciding super tiebreaker third set, Lee and Rengiil worked their way back into the game and pulled off a 10-4 victory to advance to the quarterfinals.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Carol Lee made it to the quarterfinals of the doubles event in the Calvo's Select Care ITF Junior Championships yesterday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Hagatna, Guam.

Tammy sets age group mark in 50m butterfly

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan's Miku Tammy couldn't pick a perfect time to make it to the record list of the girls 13 to 14 age group.

Tammy set a mark in the 50m butterfly during the NMISF Closing Swim Meet last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool after completing the one-lap swim in 32.33 seconds. She crushed the 32.48 seconds Amanda Johnson of Saipan Swim Club registered on June 28, 2006. Tammy's record in the 50m butterfly is her first since moving up to the new age group late last year.

The Tsunami Saipan swimmer now owns three age group marks in the same event as her 33.04 seconds logged on March 23, 2013 in the girls 9 to 10 and 32.38 seconds posted on Jan. 24, 2015 in the 11 to 12 division have yet to be broken.

Meanwhile, 17 other swimmers raced in the 50m butterfly event and 11 of them got personal best times.

In the girls U8 age group, Tsunami Saipan's Mizuki Suzuki finished second to Saipan Swim Club's Andrei Kaith Lyn Chavez (51.56 seconds), but the former's 1:06.24 surpassed her old PBT of 1:11.65.

Three more Tsunami Saipan swimmers in the girls division achieved PBTs. Siblings Asaka and Shoko Litulumar clocked in at 46.41 seconds and 1:00.68 in the girls 9 to 10 race to eclipse their previous PBTs of 49.86 seconds and 1:01.10, respectively. Ashley Dangol and Kana Suzuki, also of Tsunami Saipan, missed new PBTs, but they finished in the Top 2 in the age group with the former logging 35.42 seconds and the latter registering 44.97 seconds.

In the girls 11 to 12, Risa Sekiguchi set a PBT as her 49.19 seconds broke her old mark of 49.64 seconds.

In the boys division, five SSC swimmers and two from Tsunami Saipan earned PBTs.

Brothers Jinnosuke and Lennosuke Suzuki's new PBTs read at 35.53 seconds (from 36.49) and 32.40 seconds (from 32.84). Jinnosuke raced in the boys 9 to 10 and defeated fellow SSC swimmers Taiyo Akimaru (39.42 seconds) and Mark Jainier Chavez, who set a PBT with his 52.34 seconds (from 57.58 seconds). Lennosuke competed in the 13 to 14 division and won over Rinto Takahashi, who duplicated the former's feat after recording a PBT (37.54 seconds from 38.40 seconds). David Boyer was the fifth SSC swimmer to mark a PBT with his 32.54 seconds (from 32.93).

On Tsunami Saipan's side, U8's Aasish Dangol timed in at 42.95 seconds to crush his old PBT of 44.48, while Joseph Zhang of the 11 to 12 age group made the biggest drop, from 1:18.25 to 56.06 seconds.

Meanwhile, results in other events will be reported later this week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tsunami Saipan's Miku Tammy cools down after her record-breaking swim in the 50m butterfly event in last Saturday's NMISF Closing Swim Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.